Flying Snake

A Journal of
Cryptozoology, Folklore and Forteana

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Special lake and sea monster edition

Parade in Cromford Rd, Ripley, Derbyshire,1932,with Loch Ness Monster

Zuiyo-Maru Carcass • Sky Beast • Singing Worms • Cat Headed Monkey • Cat With Fangs • Ancient Egyptians in Yorkshire • Crosses in Sky • Cryptozoology in Pop & Rock • Huge Frogs • St Patrick and Puerto Rico Insects • 70 ft Long Ocean Eel • Millions of Toads • Nephilim and Enoch • Mystery Meerkats • Lake Banyoles Cryptid Part Two • Cod Eats Teeth • And More!

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ABOUT FLYING SNAKE

Flying Snake is available from:
Richard Muirhead
112 High St,
Macclesfield,
Cheshire,
SK11 7QQ
UK
http://homepage.ntlworld.com/richmuirhead/cryptozoology/
Email: muirhead@richardmuirhead4.orangehome.co.uk

Tel: 01625 261625

Mike Hardcastle ,Sub-Editor,NSW Australia . www.cosmicpolymath.com
Carl P. Marshall Zoological Consultant and W. Midlands correspondent.

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COVER shows a parade through Ripley, Derbyshire as the story of Nessie began to impact upon the public conscience in Great Britain.

DR DEVOS DIARY

"*For I pray God for the introduction of new creatures into this island. For I pray God for the ostriches of Salisbury Plain, the beavers of the Medway and silver fish of Thames." Christopher Smart `Rejoice in the Lamb`.Poet,naturalist,lunatic (1722-1771)*

Well I am writing this shortly after having come back to Macclesfield after going to the Weird Weekend, hosted by Jon Downes in Hartland, Devon. If you didn`t go (why not?) then there is always Weird Weekend North near Manchester from April 1st-2nd 2017. Meanwhile life goes on relatively normally at Devo Mansions, the next major cryptozoological event I know of apart from the publication of Flying Snake #11 is the publication of Karl Shuker`s book on the Loch Ness Monster,then a few weeks or more after that the publication by CFZ Press of my Muirhead`s Mysteries book of blogs. Recently I have been purchasing back issues of the A5 size Fortean Times from the AFU Shop in Sweden because I want to fill in gaps that I am missing, so I will have all issues 1 - 60 inclusive. I also bought an issue of Flying Saucer Review (has it gone bust?) from 1978 that had an article on the "Stacks Rocks Humanoids" case from Wales that I recall reading way back in the early 1980s. This tied in neatly with a talk Jon Downes gave at the Weird Weekend on the chupacabra in Puerto Rico because in the same issue of F.S.R was a piece on a flying humanoid on that island. Or Bolivia, I forget.

This issue of FS actually covers a belief in Puerto Rico ages ago that the name of St Patrick could be invoked to drive out insects, (see Notes & Queries). Also, the usual motley crew of flying serpents, out of place Egyptian artefacts, (in Yorkshire of all places), singing worms (oh yes!) And there is a special emphasis on lake and sea monsters, for no particular reason other than I am in a sea-serpentish sort of mood. I saw Roy Mackal`s book on the Loch Ness Monster in a book stall in Manchester the other day but sadly I didn`t have enough money to buy it. Hopefully it`ll still be there the next time I visit, or will it,er, have disappeared like Nessie?!

On a more personal level I turn 50 ,(or should that be I DE-VO lve to 50) on November 5th 2016. Thanks to other members of my family a jolly good time is promised to happen, I am sure it will. Finally I would like to thank Dr Karl Shuker for mentioning me twice in his `A Manifestation of Monsters: Examining the (Un)Usual Suspects ` (2015). Karl has offered to write the foreword to my Muirhead`s Mysteries book. Thanks to al who contributed to F.S. no 11!

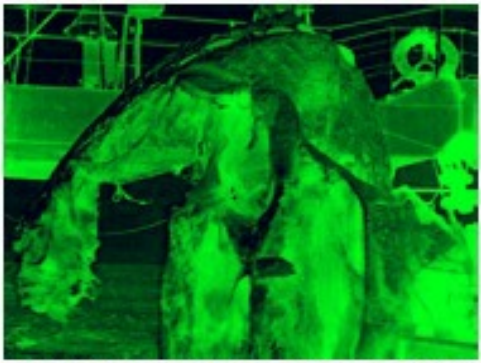
It`s Hallowe`en[1] and The Zuiyo Maru Carcass is coming to get you

Scott Mardis

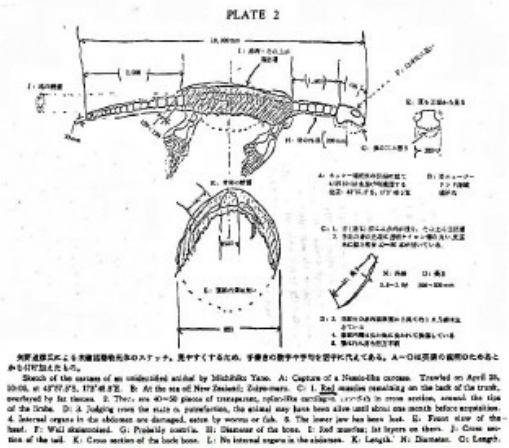
[1] This was the original title

IT'S HALLOWEEN AND THE ZUIYO MARU CARCASS IS COMING TO GET YOU! BY SCOTT MARDIS

Yes, that abominable thing, probably a basking shark, possibly a plesiosaur! Trapped in a nightmare limbo, neither fully a plesiosaur or a pseudo plesiosaur, an amorphous blob with some parts mosasaur, some parts plesiosaur, almost a basking shark but not quite. Whatever it is, it's dead, it smells of rotting flesh and it's coming to get you!



For those of you who don't know this tale of horror, on April 25, 1977, a dead and rotting, 32 ft. long animal carcass was brought up in the fishing net of the Japanese commercial fishing vessel Zuiyo Maru off the east coast of New Zealand. Curious but fearing contamination of the fish already on board, the crew brought the creature on deck, photographed it 5 times, cut 42 pieces of fibrous tissues from one of the pectoral fins, measured the various body parts and then cast it back in the sea, with the intention of retrieving it later.



Sketch of the carcass of an unidentified animal by Michihiko Yano. A: Capture of a Nemichthyidae carcass. Trawled on April 25, 10:00, at 42°37.5'S, 173°48.8'E. B: At the sea off New Zealand; Zuiyo-maru. C: 1. Red mantles remaining on the back of the trunk, overlayed by fat tissues. 2. Thec. are 40~50 pieces of transparent, nylon-like cartilages, ○○○○cm in cross section, around the ribs of the limbs. D: A Judging from the stain in putrefaction, the animal may have been alive until about one month before capitation. E: Internal organs in the abdomen are damaged, eaten by worms or fish. F: The lower jaw has been lost. G: Faint view of the head. F: Well skeletonized. G: Probably nostrils. H: Diameter of the bone. I: 2nd mantles; 1st layers on them. J: Cross section of the tail. K: Cross section of the back bone. L: No internal organs in the abdomen. K: Length. N: Diameter. O: Length.

Ships were sent to look for the carcass, but it was never found. When the biologists of Japan were shown the photographs of the carcass in July 1977, here was the reaction:

Scientists in Japan who have seen all the evidence have tended to confirm that the creature was not a familiar one. Professor Yoshinori Imaizuni, director of research at the Tokyo National Science Museum, said: "It's not a fish, whale or any other mammal. It's a reptile and the sketch looks very like a plesiosaurus... This was a precious and important discovery for human beings. It seems to show that these animals are not extinct after all. It's impossible for only one to have survived. There must be a group." (Denver Post, 7/21/77; Credit: Elly Fithian).

Tokio Shikama, "a scholar of ancient animals" at Yokohama National University, said: "It has to be a plesiosaurus. These creatures must still roam the seas off New Zealand feeding on fish." He called the area an "ideal habitat," abounding in fish and with a surface temperature of about 50° F. (Wire service reports, July 25, 1977).

The controversy immediately spread from Tokyo throughout the world. Was it a hoax? Was it a prehistoric plesiosaur? Prof. Fujio Yasudo of Tokyo Fisheries University said; "As soon as I saw the photos, I knew it was something extremely rare. Without a bone sample, however, it's impossible to determine just what animal it was." Tokyo Skikama, an ancient-animal expert at Yokohama National University identified the creature as indeed being a plesiosaur and a University of Chicago biology professor, Leigh Van Valen, agreed, saying: "If Skikama says it is a plesiosaur, it must be a plesiosaur. He's worked on marine mammals and is a respected expert." Van Valen added that he is "fairly well convinced there is something big in Loch Ness" as well. A Scottish

Then the story took a decisive turn:

Japanese Says That Sea Creature Could Be Related to Shark Species

TOKYO, July 25 (AP)—A marine biologist says a 30-foot, two-ton sea creature netted by a Japanese trawler off New Zealand in April showed a biochemical makeup similar to that of a kind of shark.

A spokesman for Prof. Fujio Yasuda of Tokyo Fisheries University said today that a gas chromatography analysis of a whisker-like specimen from the creature showed it contained various amino acids seen in a species of shark, Prionace Glaucus, that usually grows to a maximum length of 18 feet.

"Yasuda stressed that the report is strictly tentative, and what it shows is only that the monster could have been a shark, not that it was nothing but a shark," the spokesman said. Prior to the chemical analysis, the professor said the creature resembled an extinct sea reptile of 130 million years ago.

The trawler Zuiyo Maru fished up the dead creature and sent a specimen and photographs to Tokyo for analysis. The rotted carcass was thrown back because crewmen feared it would contaminate their catch.

Using a method known as ion-exchange chromatography to determine the amino-acid structure of the protein in the fibrous strands Yano had given him, Dr. Shigeru Kimura, a biochemist at the Tokyo University school of fisheries, found that for every 1,000 units of amino acids in the monster tissue, 40 were of a type called tyrosine. The amino-acid structure of a blue shark's fin averaged 44 units of tyrosine per 1,000 of amino acids which, Kimura said, represented a remarkable correlation.

"Among fish, it is known that only sharks and rays have the type of protein called elastoidin," Dr. Kimura said. "But as for reptiles, I do not think there is relevant data, even abroad."

He added that the protein could not have come from a mammal's skin or hair.

Thus, chemically, the monster may have been either a fish or, possibly, a reptile, but not a mammal.

"Even if the tissue contains the same protein as the shark's, it is rash to say that the monster is a shark," said Prof. Tokio Shikama, a paleontologist at Yokohama National University. "The finding is not enough to refute a speculation that the monster is a plesiosaur."

Finally, this happened:

It was in the beginning of last July that Dr. Fujio Yasuda, professor of ichthyology at our university, came to my office and showed me some photographs. As I stared at a strange creature shown in the photographs, I felt it would create a great sensation.

The photographs showed the carcass of an animal that had been hauled up on a Japanese trawler, the Zuiyo-maru (2,455 tons; captain, Akira Tanaka) of Taiyo Fishery Company, Ltd., from a depth of 300 m at 43°57' S, 170°80' E, about 30 miles east off Christchurch, New Zealand, on the morning of Apr. 25, 1977. Mr. Michihiko Yano, an acting section chief of the company then on board, took photographs and made measurements and a sketch of this animal.

On Yano's return to the Tokyo headquarters of the Taiyo Fishery Company, the company requested Dr. Yasuda to identify this unusual animal from the photographs and sketch made by Mr. Yano. Dr. Yasuda pressed forward with the identification work in concert with other scientists in various fields.

In the meantime, the Taiyo Fishery Company disclosed the capture story, presenting the photographs and sketch at a press interview the company held on July 20. It was before Dr. Yasuda and his collaborators drew any conclusion on the taxonomic position of the animal, but certain circumstances may have obliged the company to release the story. It was not surprising that a few newspapers published very sensational stories in their evening editions of the same day, speculating its identity as a giant shark, plesiosaur, Nessie, or other monsters. Since then, all newspapers devoted a large space for this animal in their daily issues. Radio and television were no less enthusiastic in dealing with it. Every variety of speculations, each quoting, in various ways, comments of scientists, circulated all over the country.

Under such circumstances, the Taiyo Fishery Company made an interim report on July 25, using the results of studies of the chemical analysis of the 'horny fiber' of the fin as the main topic. This report was announced by Dr. Yasuda and Dr. Shigeru Kimura, Tokyo University of Fisheries, who assisted in identifying the animal. The conclusion of the interim announcement was that the taxonomic affiliation of the animal could not be determined, though the horny fiber was similar in nature to the fin rays of a group of living animals. However, this similarity was so much emphasized in some newspapers that people appeared unable to distinguish accurate information. It was said that the communication media were hard pressed with a flood of questions from citizens: 'What is the true identity of the monster ?'

In the midst of such confusion I thought I should make efforts to settle promptly such confusion. I proposed a meeting to scientists in various fields including biochemistry, ichthyology, paleontology, comparative anatomy, immunology, mammology, etc. At the first meeting held on Sep. 1, I put the following proposition before the twelve scientists gathered (for members, see list 1): 'At the moment nobody can give a decisive answer to the question as to the exact taxonomic status of the animal. Therefore, I believe it worthwhile to publish a document, in the form of a report from a proper scientific society, plainly presenting our divided opinions. Then, let the readers have their own views

based on their own evaluation of the articles presented in the publication, and, from now on, let us refrain from giving individual publicity to our opinions. Fortunately, I gained the approval of all of the scientists participated in the meeting. We decided to publish the report from the Société Franco-Japonaise d'Océanographie, Tokyo (president, Tadayoshi Sasaki). A second meeting was held on Sep. 19 (for members, see list 2) in order to exchange references and opinions.

All of the scientists participated in the meetings except for Prof. Yutaka Nagai of the Tokyo Medical and Dental University gave their understanding to the intention of my proposal, and contributed their papers for publication. I am very grateful to all of them. The editorial board was constituted by Tadayoshi Sasaki (chief; Tokyo University of Fisheries), Fujio Yasuda (Tokyo University of Fisheries), Keiji Nasu (Japan Marine Fishery Resource Research Center), and Yasuhiko Taki (then at the Institute for Breeding Research, Tokyo University of Agriculture and presently at Tokyo University of Fisheries).

Finally I wish to express my gratitude to all of the scientists who readily contributed articles, the editors who willingly took charge of editorial work, Dr. Yasuhiko Taki who assisted in the translation of many papers, and many other persons who helped contribute to this publication.

January 15, 1978

Dr. Tadayoshi Sasaki
President
Tokyo University of Fisheries

List 1. Members participated in the first meeting, September 1, 1977, at Tokyo University of Fisheries

Toshiro Kamiya	Faculty of Medicine, University of Tokyo
Shigeru Kimura	Tokyo University of Fisheries
Koshi Mochizuki	Faculty of Agriculture, University of Tokyo
Yutaka Nagai	Tokyo Medical and Dental University
Masayuki Nakajima	Izu Mito Sea Paradise
Keiji Nasu	Japan Marine Fishery Resource Research Center
Tetsukichi Niwaguchi	National Research Institute of Police Sciences
Ikuo Obata	National Science Museum
Tadayoshi Sasaki	Tokyo University of Fisheries
Sueshige Seta	National Research Institute of Police Sciences
Yasuhiko Taki	Tokyo University of Fisheries
Fujio Yasuda	Tokyo University of Fisheries

List 2. Members participated in the second meeting, September 19, 1977, at Tokyo University of Fisheries

Tokiharu Abe	University Museum, University of Tokyo
Toshiro Kamiya	Faculty of Medicine, University of Tokyo
Shigeru Kimura	Tokyo University of Fisheries
Koshi Mochizuki	Faculty of Agriculture, University of Tokyo
Yutaka Nagai	Tokyo Medical and Dental University
Keiji Nasu	Japan Marine Fishery Resource Research Center
Tetsukichi Niwaguchi	National Research Institute of Police Sciences
Ikuo Obata	National Science Museum
Hideo Omura	Whales Research Institute
Tadayoshi Sasaki	Tokyo University of Fisheries
Sueshige Seta	National Research Institute of Police Sciences
Yasuhiko Taki	Tokyo University of Fisheries
Michihiko Yano	Taiyo Fishery Co., Ltd.
Fujio Yasuda	Tokyo University of Fisheries
Teruya Uyeno	Nippon Luther Shingaku Daigaku

Collected Papers on the Carcass of an Unidentified Animal Trawled off New Zealand by the Zuiyo-maru

Which led to this:

The Morphology and Chemical Composition of Horny Fiber from an Unidentified Creature Captured off the Coast of New Zealand*

Shigeru KIMURA**, Katsuyuki FUJII***, Hajime SATO****,
Sueshige SETA**** and Minoru KUBOTA**

Abstract: The only material evidence, horny fiber, of an unidentified creature captured off the coast of New Zealand was characterized with respects to its hydrothermal behaviour, electron microscope observation, and chemical composition. From the combined results, the horny fiber was identified as a unique collagenous fiber, elastoidin, which has been reported to occur only in shark fins. Especially, it was almost identical to a basking shark elastoidin in its amino acid composition. Thus, these findings may lead us to the conclusion that the unidentified creature is a basking shark or a closely related species to it.

Which ultimately resulted in this:

Sea-monster or Shark?

An Analysis of a Supposed Plesiosaur Carcass Netted in 1977

© 1997-98, Glen J. Kuban E-mail gkpaleo@yahoo.com

Published in *Reports of the National Center for Science Education* , May/June 1997, Vol. 17, No. 3, pp.16-28.

Abstract

A decayed carcass accidentally netted by a Japanese trawler near New Zealand in 1977 has often been claimed by creationists and others to be a likely plesiosaur or prehistoric "sea-monster." Plesiosaurs were a group of long-necked, predatory marine reptiles with four paddle-like limbs, thought to have gone extinct with the dinosaurs about 65 million years

ago. However, several lines of evidence, including lab results from tissue samples taken from the carcass before it was discarded, strongly point to the specimen being a shark, and most likely a basking shark. This should not be surprising, since basking sharks are known to decompose into "pseudoplesiosaur" forms, and their carcasses have been mistaken for "sea-monsters" many times in the past. Unfortunately, the results of scientific studies on the carcass data received less media attention than the early sensational reports, allowing widespread misconceptions about this case to continue circulating. Therefore, a thorough review of its history and the pertinent evidence is warranted.

A more neutral version is to be found here:

Biol. Bull. **202:** 1–5. (February 2002), **How To Tell a Sea Monster: Molecular Discrimination of Large Marine Animals of the North Atlantic,** S. M. CARR1,*, H. D. MARSHALL1, K. A. JOHNSTONE1, L. M. PYNN1, AND G. B. STENSON2 (1*Genetics, Evolution, and Molecular Systematics Laboratory, Department of Biology, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland A1B 3X9, Canada; and* 2*Marine Mammals Section, Science, Oceans, and Environment Branch, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, PO Box 5667, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5X1, Canada)- "*A 1977 discovery in the nets of a Japanese fishing trawler was initially described as a 'plesiosaur', but detailed morphological examination strongly suggests chondrichthian origins(Kuban, 1997)."-pg. 4

But....wait a minute.....what about this?

Comparison of the Unidentified Animal with Fossil Animals*

Ikuwo OBATA** and Yoshio TOMODA**

Celestial Intervention and the Nephilim

Michael Hardcastle

The ancient book of Enoch, along with the Biblical Genesis account, may go a long way in shedding some light on the true nature of both the bigfoot and UFO phenomena. For those with a Biblical world-view, these ancient Hebrew writings give an indepth explanation to the apparent supernatural aspects of the bigfoot phenomena and how it might tie into the UFO enigma. The fallen angels had intermingled there own DNA with humans as well as with animals, as Genesis, the Book of Enoch and the Book of Giants, (two Pseudepigrapha books found among the dead sea scrolls) explains. Genesis 6:12 specificly states that all flesh had been corrupted in the days of Noah by the fallen angels or the Watchers, as the Book of Enoch calls them. My hypothesis is that the bigfoot/sasquatch, dogman, black eyed kids and so called grey aliens, are all, in fact, modern forms of the biblical Nephilim or demonic hybrids, the seed of the serpent or fallen cherabim, in Genesis. Many of these creatures are often seen in connection with a UFO or strange orbs of light. The dogman phenomena especially seems to show a direct tampering with both human and canine/wolf DNA and the creatures themselves project a malevolent supernatural fear and demonic evil, that infects the people who witness it with the so-called 'nameless dread'. The savagery of these supernatural entities defies belief, as the report of 'THE BEAST OF LBL' shows. This particular wolf-man attack on a young family in a Western Kentucky rural camp grounds in the Daniel Boon National *Forest* , was truly horrific and left the police who investigated the case, in a state of shock, fear and confusion and represents what I believe to be a Nephilim attack. The victims appeared to have been butchered and torn to pieces by a predator with large claws and long incisors that did not match any of the local predatory animals, such as bears, cougers or wolves. It had 4 long claws and a smaller digit, like a thumb, on the side, with a span that was wider then a man's print. During the investigaton, saliva taken from the bite marks, as well as long, grey and brown hairs from the creature were collected. The tests on these specimens came back as a species of unknown origin. The closest animal that they could be compared with was a Canis

Lupis, a wolf. One of the victims was found half eaten high in a tree which clearly discounts a wolf attack. As cryptozoologist Jack Cary said “with dogman there really is no biological answer, and thats deeply disturbing on a level that sasquatch will never be”. And regarding both sasquacth and dogman DNA Jack Cary says “if you want to know the truth, that a lot of these scientists, these geneticist, are scared to death that they're finding human DNA in these samples”. And this, in my opinion, is a clear indicator that the age old genetic tampering from the fallen angels, is still ongoing in modern times.Veteran Sasquatch researcher, Ron Morehead, has concluded that bigfoot may well be a degenerated form of the Biblical Nephilim, as seen in his following quote - “ I believe bigfoot may be a diluted form of the Nephilim that the Bible talks about ”- Ron Morehead. This conclusion will no doubt be dismissed out of hand by many in the cryptozooalogical community and by those who do not have a Biblical world-view. I dare say this is why the Melba Ketchum DNA study has been attacked and covered up by many in the academic world. The DNA study clearly showed that bigfoot is half-human on the mother's side { Mitochondrial DNA } and unknown on the father's side, { Nuclear DNA } results that, as Ron Morehead admits, points directly to celestial intervention, just as the account in Genesis and the Book of Enoch describe. It also, coincidently, fits in perfectly with the intervention theory of Lloyd Pye, although in this hypothesis I believe bigfoot to be a hybrid offspring of fallen angels and humans, not extraterrestrials.

The Nephilim/bigfoot theory would, no doubt, be the most unpopular, as most researchers are convinced these creatures are some type of undescribed ape or the extinct species called Gigantopithecus, but one has to take all the strange phenomena surrounding them into consideration, not just what they superficially resemble or just the evidence that would back up your world-view. Some of this strange phenomena include reports of de-materialization, often evidenced by a line of tracks that suddenly disappear, the extreme fear shown by animals, as if they have sensed a supernatural side to these creatures, (a perfect example of this would be the many reports of tracking dogs refusing to follow the sent of a bigfoot as shown in the following quote from a Tom Slick expedition - (" A very special dog that had been trained to hunt bears. Red claimed that his dog was fearless and would run anything, but when they came to tracks on an old logging road, the dogs hackles bristled and it refused to move down the trail. Everyone froze as the dog howled in fear and ran back towards camp." - Tom Slick Mystery Hunter

Also the many reports of a sulphur or a burning rubber-like smell, an odour often associated with poltergeist cases, such as the Amityville horror and many other hauntings. In short the bigfoot phenomena goes hand in glove with a plethora of

what one might call "paranormal activity", activity that has often included a direct tie-in with UFOs.
"A slew of unexplained occurrences have been witnessed by researchers in Sylvanic, BC. Their first surprise episode took place during the team's winter 2006 expedition, when a roll of colour film in the photographer's camera became overexposed to a high-intensity energy beam that ruined every image. While this caused confusion for the researchers, this exact scenario has been reported on several occasions by photographers with a documented history of UFO encounters, especially Eduard Meier. On another day hike into the Sylvanic Valley in 2008 the group heard and witnessed the killing of their dog that had broken away from the group to chase a rabbit. This prohibited act was met with lethal force as a Sasquatch broke the dog's backbone with a single blow before disappearing instantaneously."- Resonant Atomic Reactions and the Glow of Sasquatch Eyes by Alex Putney

Two pioneers in the field of the UFO/Nephilim connection were the late Dr I.D.E. Thomas, author of a classic book on the subject called 'The Omega Conspiracy' and the English theologian, George H. Pember (1836 - 1910) who's 1876 masterpiece, 'Earth's Earliest Ages' is a tour-de-force in interpreting the modern day UFO and paranormal phenomena through the light of ancient Hebrew texts, such as 'The Book of Enoch', 'The Genesis Apocryphon', and of course Genesis chapter 6. The book of Enoch is an ancient Jewish apocryphal work from the second century B.C. while older portions of the book that deal with the Watchers could date from about 300 BC. It is regarded as canonical by the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church and appears as the first book before Genesis in the Ethiopian Bible. It was excluded from the formal canon of the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh }. It is ascribed by Hebrew tradition to Enoch, the great-grandfather of Noah, and the book itself asserts Enoch as its author. The book was rediscovered by Scottish explorer James Bruce, who brought back three copies of the Book of Enoch from Abyssinia in 1773. Robert Henry Charle's translation and commentary of the Ethiopic text came out in 1893, and the English version of his translation in 1912. Also fragments of the ancient Book of Enoch were found among the Dead Sea Scrolls, written in Aramaic. The book deals with such topics as fallen angels, known in Hebrew as the b'nai ha Elohim ('sons of God'), resurrection, and last judgement. It had a substantial influence on the early Christians, in fact a number of Bible writers recognised it's important Jewish heritage and makes clear reference to it in the New Testament book of Jude 1:14-15, quoting Enoch 1:9 {2:1- "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam prophesied of these, saying, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgement upon all, and to convince all

that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches, which ungodly sinners have spoken against him." The Book of Enoch makes clear that demonic cosmic powers are behind the evil on the earth today, an evil that has its origin with the fallen angels of the Genesis 6 account and who are responsible for the corruption of humanity and the fall of God's creation.

Some native American tribes also believed that the origin of the bigfoot lay in the supernatural realm, as can be seen in the following quote by Spanish-Mexican naturalist Jose Mariano Moziño Suárez de in 1793 -

" Locals speak of a Matlog, a resident of the mountains, who fills everyone with unspeakable dread. They describe it as having a monstrous body, covered in all manner of rigid black bristles, with a head similar to a human's but with larger, sharper and stronger fangs than a bear's, very long arms, with its fingers and toes armed with long and curved claws. Its screams alone --they say-- can topple anyone... I presume that... members of the tribe received word long ago that these entities owe their existence to demons." -

The Book of Enoch elaborates in much greater detail on the Genesis 6 account. The following points are, I believe evidence that points to the Nephilim/bigfoot hypothesis as being true. The many bigfoot sightings in close proximity to UFOs, often both phenomena being reported in the same location at the same time. See the book 'Silent Invasion' by Stan Gordon for many examples on this. The many reports of disappearing tracks often seen as a line of tracks that suddenly disappear, as if the creature dematerialized in mid-stride. Extreme fear shown by domestic animals when in close proximity to a bigfoot. Tracking dogs refusing to follow the sent of a bigfoot. Eyewitness sightings of sasquatch de-materializing in front of them. A phenomena that has been reported by many people over the years, and hints at the possibility of these creatures being the product of celestial intervention just as veteran Sasquatch researcher Ron Morehead has suggested. The creature's fallen angel DNA could give them the ability of de-materialization ie. going into another dimension, while their human DNA would allow them to hold solid form while in this dimension. Adding to this hypothesis is the native American legend that bigfoot can walk between worlds, in other words, between dimensions. Bigfoot's human-like physical features adds weight to the theory that they are half human. Most native tribes both in Australia, America and elsewhere consider them a type of people or human. Often calling them by the name “hairy man”.There are many reports of bigfoot being seen in close proximity to orbs of light. Often both phenomena being sighted in the same location and at the same time. This is significant, as I believe these glowing balls of light to be demons or the fallen angels themselves. Bigfoot researcher Ron Morehead has sighted these orbs in the vicinity of his bigfoot study area, and has suggested that the sasquatch may

be in some type of quantum communication with their creators ie: the fallen angels themselves. I believe these creatures to be a blend of human, fallen angel, and ape DNA. Obviously they have primate-like traits such as building ground nests and possessing canine teeth like those of a gorilla, as well as their own unique language which has been recorded by Ron Morehead and is just another sign that these creatures are a lot more then just a species of undescribed ape running around in the wilds of nearly every continent. George H. Pember's classic book 'Earth's Earliest Ages' describes the origin of the Biblical Nephilim in the following quote, a description that I believe also explains the origin of bigfoot - " The earliest records of civilisation tell of the era when powerful beings known to the Hebrews as Watchers and in the book of Genesis as the b'nai ha Elohim ('sons of God') mingled themselves with humans, giving birth to part-celestial, part-terrestrial hybrids known as 'Nephilim.''

Fig 1. Cartoon by Hunt Emerson

Singing Worms

Loes Modderman

Some animals do have unexpected talents.But who would ever have thought about an earthworm singing?

This opening clipping[1] (see page 21) is from the *Sentinel, Sept 23, 1925*. The writer was obviously as incredulous about singing earthworms as we are.We all know earthworms as very useful but not very attractive creatures, mostly seen when we work in the garden, and sometimes when the rain has exposed them to die on the pavement. Personally I always try to pick them up to put them within reach of their natural habitat: earth.They never sang. They didn't even say thank you, and I never expected them to.

Singing Earthworms? Really?

Yes. And the discovery held the attention of some biologists for several years, as far as I could track clippings about the noisy critters. This one is from the *Chronicle (Adelaide SA) Sat 20th June 1925.*(see page 25.)My first encounter with singing earthworms was in a Dutch paper of Dec 29th 1924. I searched further and found several other mentions of this phenomenon and the man who discovered it. The story started at the end of 1924, when the German Dr. Mangold of Freiburg University discovered that earthworms are not as silent as we supposed. Dr Mangold must have had a very fine hearing, for he discovered not only sound but also rhythm, when he observed the animals under glass in his laboratory. The species under observation was ***Lumbricus Terrestris,*** the common earthworm. In my country they are called '*pieren*'. Mangold's colleages must have thought he had lost it, but he had not. We can hear the Earthworm here, it really produces sound: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HA_XMJDe48 The good doctor wrote a long article about his extensive experimental findings in the *Library Digest* of Oct 26th, 1926, under the title *'When Earthworms Sing Together* ' Although this article and several others are still available, one has to pay for it, which I didn't.

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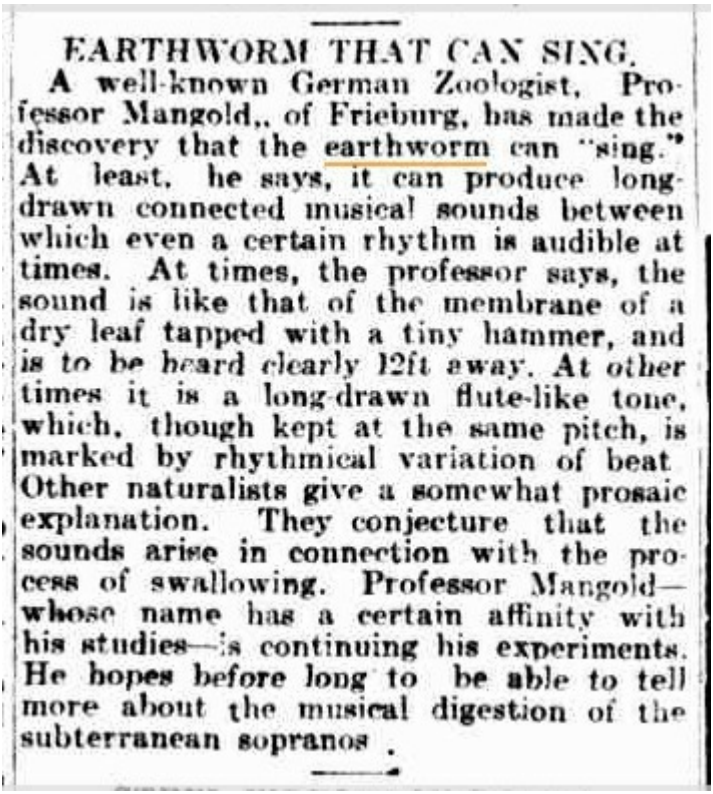
[1] I couldn`t find this clipping Loes sent me,but the one here on p.21 is from the Newcastle Morning Herald (NSW) of August 8th 1925



EARTHWORM THAT CAN SING.

A well-known German Zoologist, Professor Mangold,, of Frieburg, has made the discovery that the earthworm can "sing." At least, he says, it can produce long-drawn connected musical sounds between which even a certain rhythm is audible at times. At times, the professor says, the sound is like that of the membrane of a dry leaf tapped with a tiny hammer, and is to be heard clearly 12ft away. At other times it is a long-drawn flute-like tone, which, though kept at the same pitch, is marked by rhythmical variation of beat Other naturalists give a somewhat prosaic explanation. They conjecture that the sounds arise in connection with the process of swallowing. Professor Mangold—whose name has a certain affinity with his studies—is continuing his experiments. He hopes before long to be able to tell more about the musical digestion of the subterranean sopranos .

Newcastle Morning Herald (NSW)

August 8th 1925

Searching for more references I took William Corliss' Handbook *'Incredible Life'* from the shelf. Obviously these humble worms moved a lot of scientific earth.

In 1926 and 1927 they got ample space in the prestigious magazine '*Science*'. This drew the attention of an American *Dr. Rudolf Rüdemann*, from the New York State Museum, who must have had a German background. Here (page 23) is the story of his own acquaintance with the music of earthworms, which really is endearing. Scientists in those days often possessed a sense of wonder that is sorely lacking in science today. The beauty of even the most taken-for-granted creature was not lost on Dr Rüdemann, nor on his wife. They listened. And heard. The world was less noisy than it is now, I doubt if we could hear the tiny sounds, even if we tried.

Discussions around the singing worms went on in the papers till at least 1932, but most of it is repetition. Corliss mentions another experimenter, W.H. Walton, who also wrote in *'Science*'. Walton , an angler, had a earthen pot in his cellar where he kept 100+ earthworms for angling convenience. He had also heard the sounds, but thought they were the result of the worming movements throughout the earth. Inspired by the experiments of Mangold and Rüdemann he took some of the worms to a container with spagnum moss. But that didn't influence the singing in the least.

It seems that the angler got some sympathy for his guinea pigs, for he even defended their intelligence. In this respect he was obviously inspired by Charles Darwin, who was captivated by worms and observed them in their habitat. In a lengthy paper article in the Australasian of 17th Dec 1881(which I have not reproduced here as it`s so long - Richard) it's mentioned that Darwin even in 1837 pointed out the enormous importance of the humble creature for the quality of the surface soil. Darwin studied earthworms all over the world and became mightily impressed with their intelligence and systematic behaviour. His last book is all about worms...

If Darwin also mentions the sounds they make I don't know, but in his studies he must have heard their 'singing'.Here's an instructive article on Darwin's experiments: Go to page 26.

Gnowangerup Star and Tambellup-Ongerup Gazette (WA : 1915 - 1942), Saturday 7 January 1928, page 1

SINGING EARTHWORMS.

If you ever ear earthworms singing you should not conclude at once that you need to take the pledge. Earthworms do sing, according to a critical scientific witness, Dr. Rudolph Ruedemann, of the New York State Museum, who confirms by observations on the vocalisations of American earthworms the report of a saengerfest of German worms sent in by a Freiburg scientist, Professor Mangold. Says Dr. Ruedemann :—

It was first pointed out to me by Mrs. Rendemann, on a sultry May evening, that the earthworms in our garden back of the house could be distinctly heard. Being incredulous at first, I sat quietly on a chair until I also heard an exceedingly fine rasping noise all around me. It was a chorus of almost unbelievably small voices in the dark. To find out whether the little musicians were really earthworms, I got a flashlight, and when the voices, after the quiet resulting from the disturbance of walking over the ground, were again in full chorus, turned the light upon a point close to me, from which I was sure a rasping sound arose. The light revealed a large earthworm, partly stretched out of its burrow. I spotted several more afterward. We two have since heard the singing every year, always on warm spring evenings about and after dusk. Mrs. Ruedemann also heard it last spring about four o'clock in the afternoon on a warm May day after a rain, and then she could see the "singing" worms all partly stretched out of their burrows.

Dr. Ruedemann is of the opinion that the worms produce the sound by dragging the exceedingly fine bristles under their bodies over some hard object at the edge of their burrows, fiddle-bow fashion. The German scientist, on the contrary, thinks that the worms do their singing with their mouths, clicking them open and shut so rapidly as to produce a fine buzzing noise.

National Library of Australia

Gnowangerup Star and Tambellup-Ongerup Gazette (Western Australia) January 7th 1928

Fig 1 Darwin and the worm

Wikipedia Creative Commons

A SINGING EARTH-WORM.

OR IS IT ONLY EATING?

A well-known German zoologist, Professor Mangold, of Freiburg, has made the startling discovery that the earthworm can "sing." At least, he says it can produce long-drawn connected musical sounds between which even a certain rhythm is at times audible.

He has published this discovery after studying for some time the strange sounds emanating from the glass bowls under which he keeps his collection of earthworms.

At times, he says, the sound is like that of the membrane of a dry leaf tapped with a tiny hammer, and is clearly to be heard 12 feet away.

At other times it is a long-drawn flute-like tone, which though kept at the same pitch is marked by rhythmical variation of beat.

Other naturalists give a somewhat prosaic explanation. They conjecture that the sounds arise in connection with the process of swallowing.

Professor Mangold—whose name has a certain affinity with his studies—is continuing his experiments. He hopes before long to be able to tell us more about the musical digestion of the subterranean sopranos.

Chronicle (Adelaide) June 20th 1925

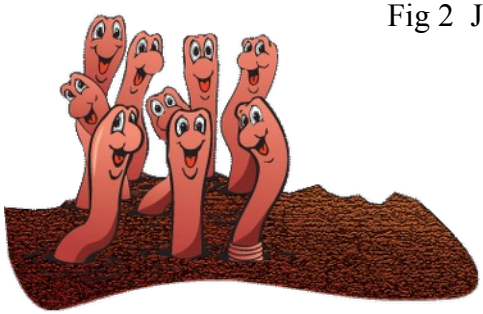


Fig 2 Joyful worms.

http://sciencelearn.org.nz/Science-Stories/Earthworms/Charles-Darwin-and-earthworms

At a certain moment the 'singing earthworm' became disconnected from the gentlemen Mangold, Rüdemann and Walton. As the clipping here shows (from the *Sunday Mail, Brisbane Qld, 27 Nov 1927*- page 27, Rich). their 'musicality' was interpreted by this writer as if the worms themselves had a musical ear, which of course, none of the researchers ever intended to say. That earthworms react on tapping or sound vibrations is obvious, and blackbirds (and anglers) know that very well, to the chagrin of the worms. The singing earthworm brought me to the phenomenon in a different kind of Earthworm, a big one, where this clipping (p.28) from *The Maitland Daily Mercury Tue 29th Oct 1901* makes mention of, more than 20 years before Dr Mangold, a 'singing Earthworm' of different proportions: 'three or four feet in length' .

No scientific name is given. In Australia there's the Megascolides australis or the Giant Gippsland Earthworm, discovered in 1870 and named by the Director of the National Museum of Victoria, Professor Frederick McCoy. It grows from 6 to 10 feet length but isn't that thick. Really a 'down under' worm, and on the list of threatened animals. Probably because people think it's a dangerous snake.
The website *AtlasObscura* tells us that there has been a museum especially for the Giant Gippsland Earthworm, but that closed down in 2012.
http://www.atlasobscura.com/places/wildlife-wonderlands-giant-earthworm-museum

An absolute topper in respect to thickness is the one… discovered in 2009, according to internet. somewhere in Equador, probably, but not certain, a *Martiodrilus Crassus*, about 5 feet long. There's some speculation on the net if it is real or Photoshopped, but there are very long and big earthworms living in South America.

Anyway, these big worms of which there are many in different parts of the world, certainly make noise that's audible to humans and predators (I'm not sure if they are not the same).There's a growing awareness that earthworms are important and should be allowed to do what they are meant to do: working the soil. I found several children's books where an earthworm is the star, and this short YouTube film is a funny way of introducing them, though not very biologically correct:

"MUSICAL" EARTHWORMS.

When earthworms are brought to the surface by vibration, musical or otherwise, it is not because they are musical, but because they are attempting to escape threatened danger, or what they believe to be such. This, at any rate, is the view of John D. Westall, of Randall, Washington, who writes as follows:—

"Concerning those 'musical earthworms,' I would suggest that it is no love of music or 'fiddling' that causes them to come to the surface of the ground, but that fear is the impelling cause. During dry weather, earthworms stay deeper in the ground than they do in wet places or during wet weather. Once when these worms were near the surface of the ground, I noticed dozens of them coming out, and after watching for some time I saw a mole at work, evidently making a meal off any he could overtake.

"The vibrations in the soil caused by the mole's claws moving the earth warned the worms of their danger, and up they came to escape the mole. In order to prove this, I took a long stick, and walking carefully some distance away, I thrust the stick into the ground as nearly horizontal as I could. By turning it in the ground so that the small knots I had left on the stick would tear the soil, I found that I could frighten the worms to the surface in the same way that the mole had done. My opinion is, therefore, that it is just a case of nerves that causes them to come to the surface, and who can blame the poor things for trying to escape some violin music!"

Sunday Mail Brisbane November 27th 1927.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pm8pzXlU0Lw

Anyone who needs a good scientific documentary can find it here:

here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecOW4G8s9k

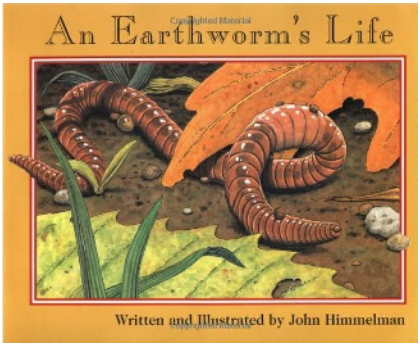
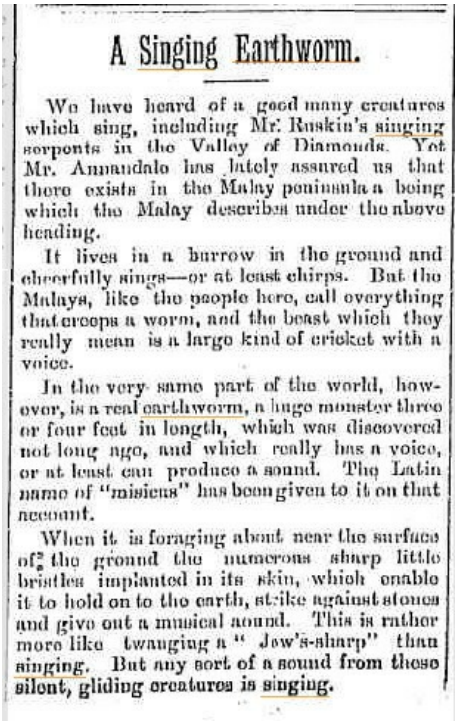


Fig 3. Children`s book on worms



A Singing Earthworm.

We have heard of a good many creatures which sing, including Mr. Ruskin's singing serpents in the Valley of Diamonds. Yet Mr. Annandale has lately assured us that there exists in the Malay peninsula a being which the Malay describes under the above heading.

It lives in a burrow in the ground and cheerfully sings—or at least chirps. But the Malays, like the people here, call everything that creeps a worm, and the beast which they really mean is a large kind of cricket with a voice.

In the very same part of the world, however, is a real earthworm, a huge monster three or four feet in length, which was discovered not long ago, and which really has a voice, or at least can produce a sound. The Latin name of "misiens" has been given to it on that account.

When it is foraging about near the surface of the ground the numerous sharp little bristles implanted in its skin, which enable it to hold on to the earth, strike against stones and give out a musical sound. This is rather more like twanging a "Jew's-harp" than singing. But any sort of a sound from those silent, gliding creatures is singing.

The Maitland Daily Mercury October 29th 1901

Drac - The Monster of Lake Banyoles

Part Two

Javier Resines

Other mysteries

It seems to be that the legend, the reality (surely inaccurate) and the popular imagination have combined to make the lake of Banyoles a nexus of mystery or, rather, of mysteries, because to the supposed existence of the dragon we must add to one long list of unusual facts that take place in this enigmatic place, like the mysterious lights related to sightings of UFOs that have been seen repeatedly. Or the strange disappearances that have taken place in the waters, such as objects of considerable size, like the Tupolev airplane of Russian manufacture that was lost in the lake during the Spanish Civil War that was not known about until 1987 when a small part of the fuselage of the apparatus was recovered ,although, of the rest, nothing. The supposed corrosive properties of the waters of Banyoles were the explanation used by the scientists to explain the condition of the rest although - paradoxically- people bathe in the waters without it affecting health. Even stranger - Banyoles is also the home of other beings, really interesting, originating this time as if from an universal magician. These are like immortals and lewd fairies who are able to enchant farmers with their music and presence. They are created to live at the heart of the lake, in a great crystal palace that appears at midnight when there is a full moon. As the sirens that once existed they are able to attract people with their "cánticos for llevárselos" to their dwelling with dark aims. They say that still the whispers of these enigmatic women of the water can be heard if you enter the lake at night during quiet times.

The green children of Banjos Another episode no less peculiar than the one of the monster is the one of the famous case of the appearance of the green children of Banjos in 1887, supposedly coming from an underground world, that caused a great sensation at the time. Unfortunately, and after much investigation no such locality exists with any such name in Spain. Investigators of anomalous phenomena have wanted to see in Banyoles a place where enigmatic events happen. We remember a case that would come to somehow con-

-firm the existence of inter-dimensional life on our planet ,with the presence of a portal in Catalonia.

Investigators of great reputation such as Jacques Bergier or Fabio Zerpa contribute the details of the facts that go back to August 1887. Near the town of Banjos, farmers saw at a grotto two children of greenish colour, a boy and a girl. Apart from the strangeness of their colour it was noticed that they carried clothes that seemed to be made of a material unknown at the time. When trying to communicate with them, it was noticed that the children spoke a language incomprehensible as much for the farmers as for the specialists brought from Barcelona who arrived at the town a few days later. Having just arrived they had amazing facial characteristics. They had all the characteristics attributable to members of the black race, but with torn eyes, in addition to the peculiar and showy colour of their skin. In addition, according to verification later, their bodies lacked a páncreas and had a single lung. The skin, as well, was formed of diverse fibres unknown to the science of that time at least as we know it. Apparently, they were given in safekeeping to a local judge called Ricardo de Calno of Bald, according to the version. The visitors presented/displayed problems of health and no food that was offered seemed to satisfy them, except beans, mushrooms and fungi. The boy died soon after, perhaps as a result of having contracted some disease or by the weakening produced by the little amount of food digested. As we see, a hardly compatible morphology. With time, it amounted to an extraordinary history.

Fig 5. The Lake of Banyoles

The story was that the girl and her brother came from an underground country where there was no sun and in which they lived safely thanks to the artificial illumination produced by luminous spheres that they controlled and that made the plants that they ate grow. This world was separated from ours by a mighty river. One day an intense tidal wave took place that flooded their country and

the children escaped from the disaster through a grotto that took them to the zone in which they were found by the farmers. Intra-terrestrials living in the subsoil of Catalonia? A greenish race of strangers? I have many doubts on the reality of this case as this history also is narrated in other parts of the world with very few variations. For example, Woolpit , a place located in Suffolk, Great Britain, from real existence, has the same legend as ours at the hand of Ralph Coggeshall, abbot of Coggeshall (in a manuscript written in Latin) and of William de Newburgh. The facts go back many centuries to the 12th Century and the person who welcomes the children, instead of being called Ricardo de Calno is called Richard de Calne and instead of a judge there is a horseman. The two histories are almost identical, except in the form in which the children appeared. According to the English version, they arrived in the outside world while they followed a flock of sheep, after ascending by a cavern at a time of listening to a sweet music of bells. Attracted by the music, they advanced through the grotto until ending at our world. The excessive light which they found on the other side left them unconscious for a time, until the inhabitants of Suffolk woke them up. They tried to flee, but they did not manage to find the entrance of the cavern. We have before us two almost identical histories, so much alike that they are genuine. In short, it could have been just a beautiful story but, in addition to the extraordinary adventures of the green children, the lake is an instigator of many other inexplicable facts. In the waters are also appearances of ghostly lights related to another world and the existence of strange submarine currents and enormous caverns have been verified.

Fig 6 Image of St Mer

Fig 7 Nymphs drawing by Elisenda Soler

Not to mention the presence of the only prehistoric crustaceans in the small lake near there that have been known to elude the passage of million years of evolution and to continue surviving in the same environment their ancestors existed in.

The Darder Museum

After reading this article, the author become so fond of these subjects to be confident enough to begin preparing his own trip to Banyoles. If it happens, he will not let his visit go by without visiting one of the more peculiar museums that can be seen in Spain, the Darder Museum. Located a little over five hundred meters from the lake, is the Tourist Office in addition to the museum of Natural History. It was inaugurated in 1916 and during subsequent decades it was an institution of reference in Catalonia, hoarding very original specimens, as much of anthropology as of zoology, with a great variety of exotic animals in its display cabinets. In any case, my visit will be satisfied on seeing the *cabinet of curiosities* that fortunately lodges in the museum. In this room, the sensation is experienced of having made a trip to the past and visiting a museum of natural sciences of the Nineteenth Century. In addition to the selection of dissected animals and some human mummies that comprised the old collection, the museum reproduces faithfully how it was that they comprised the old collection, how it was a factory of taxidermy of the time, from which a bull calf of two heads, suckling pig with elephant`s trunk, a strange lion of dishevelled hair and a four legged turkey and one rat that writes letters and invites us to pass disquieting moments by its side. Millenarian legends, prehistoric monsters, strange accidents, green children and peculiar museums. Banyoles is - without doubt a magical place full of mysteries in whose waters,who knows, the aloof Drac may have its dwelling…

Fig 8 The Green Children of Banjos

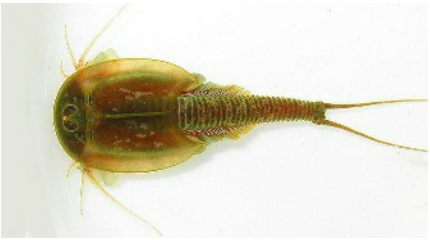


Fig 9 Triops, prehistoric crustacean lives in lake.

Fig 10. Exhibition at the Darder Museum

Details of photos

Photo 1: Situation map of the lake of Banyoles in Spain

Photo 2: Drawing of a Tanystropheus, supposed inhabitant of the lake.

Photo 3: Boat that was shipwrecked in Banyoles, 1913

Photo 4: Shipwreck of the boat of L´Oca recreation, 1998

Photo 5: Vista of the lake of Banyoles

Photo 6: Image of Saint Mer

Photo 7: Nymphs drawing by Elisenda Soler

Photo 8: The green children of Banjos

Photo 9: Triops, prehistoric crustacean that lives in the lake

Photo 10: Exhibition at the Darder Museum

A Living Mastodon in Borneo in 1926?

Loes Modderman

Although there have been finds of probable Mastodon bones on Borneo in the 19th century, the finding of a live one in 1926 is absolutely unique and the silence in the papers afterwards is rather suspicious. I couldn`t find anything more than this one article, although the expedition of Captain Buys, mentioned in the article , really happened in 1925. His objective was to penetrate the totally unknown and uncharted jungle of Borneo (now Kalimantan) in which he partially succeeded ,and was decorated afterwards. Here is a picture of his team (p. 38 in `Flying Snake`) from De Indische Courant April 17th 1926.

From 1924 to 1932 the finding of Orang Pendek was high on the agenda…If this Buys expedition had anything directly to do with the hype around the elusive Orang Pendek I don`t know.

MASTODON

Fig 1. Wikipedia Commons

The Translation - *Indische Courant* 31-03-1926": People will remember, that the expedition under Captain Buys to the unknown part of Borneo, has returned some months ago. The end goal the expedition had set was not reached, due to the bad weather and some other circumstances, so the operation was not a complete success. When Captain Buys and his comrades went back by ship,only one zoologist,the mantri Sastrowidirdjo was left behind with the instruction to collect data on the fauna of the region , which the expedition had not been able to investigate . These investigations were not of special scientific importance, but were not of special scientific

importance , but nevertheless the Department of Applicated Science and the Department of Agriculture wanted to have as much information as possible,in order to find an application for the strange zoological situation of Borneo, which, as we know, deviates totally from the others parts of the archipeligo.

To name a single fact: the non-existence of tigers in Borneo,while they are found on the surrounding islands, is one of the not yet solved zoological puzzles of the mysterious island.

We are not informed if this Javanese zoologist succeeded in finding more data which may help solve the strange animal issues of Borneo, but we want to direct the attention of our readers to an important discovery of Mr Sastrowdirdjo, which is formulated in the telegram printed below, from the resident of the Southern and Eastern department of Borneo to the Zoological Museum in Buitenzorg.

Zoologist Sastrowidirdjo,left behind by the Expedition Buys, captured in the jungle near Persigan,at the foot of the Belajan mountains a living specimen of young Mastodon, which was thought to be extinct for several centuries. The animal was shipped in Bandjarmasin on the SS De Weert, leaving for Soerabaia on the 28th.

We are informed of the departure of the zoologists Jhr Van Heurn and Dr. Van der Goot from the Zoological Laboratory in Buitenzorg,to take measures in consultation with Mr Sastrowidirdjo for further transportation of the remarkable beast. It is not yet certain if the mastodon is transported by boat to Batavia and from there by train to Buitenzorg, or that is transported over land from Soerabaia to Buitenzorg. From the K.P.M (?) We were informed that the De Weert is expected at 8 a.m. In Tandjong-Perak. The agent asked us to write specifically that the public is not allowed on board, to prevent unwanted behaviour around the cage of the savage beast, but from the quay there will be plenty of opportunity to view the mastodon, whose cage is on the front deck. We will tell more about this highly interesting find ,after we telegraphically have spoken with Dr Van der Groot, who is expected here with the express this evening. The only thing we can say at the moment is that in 1906 there had been a scientific expedition under Prof King-Dewes of Colombia University, equipped and financed by the Rockefeller Foundation, to the jungle N.W of the Tanganyka lake in Eastern Africa, searching for the mastodon, led there by the many stories of the locals that the animal was still living in the region, but

the many stories of the locals that the animal was still living in that region, but they returned after a year and a half without results. Also Dr Nieuwenhuis, who travelled in 1894 through Borneo, and Prof Molengraaf, in his `Geological Expeditions in Central Borneo`, mentioned an unknown big mammal hiding in the jungle at Upper Kajan River, but the scientific world was not very interested at that time.

That it is still possible to find remarkable animal species in unknown and unexplored regions of Africa, South American or the Indian Archipeligo, is obvious from the discovery of the Okapi in the Congo, the only living specimen of which is housed in the London Zoo, the Platypus, that strange mixture of a mammal and a bird,and the latest tidings about the existence of the Orang Pendek in South Sumatra.

Stumbling upon a mastodon is the second case (the Okapi was the first) of finding an animal which was thought to be extinct for centuries. What the importance of the capture of Mr Sastrowidirdjo will be for the scientific world, in regard to the knowledge of the dispersion of species and for the testing of the Darwinian principle of `survival of the fittest` is not yet clear, but beyond any doubt it will be enormous.

Fig 2. Kalimantan.

Wikipedia Commons

A Rough Guide

To Cryptozoological References in Pop and Rock

Richard George

The other day I was listening to one of my favourite records. *Europe `72* by the Grateful Dead. One song, *Brown-Eyed Woman,* contains this lyric:

Tumble-down shack in Bigfoot County…

Snowed so hard that the roof caved in…

Delilah Jones went to meet her God

And the old man never was the same again…

It occurred to me: do we need a database of references like this? I should warn you I`m a period musically - I like late psychedelia and the edgier end of prog - but here goes.

When it comes to manimals,the undisputed champions are German band Amon Düül II. In 1970 they released a double LP called *Yeti*, featuring an 18 minute title track . The yeti, for them, represents the hippie as seen by bourgeois German society: dirty,hairy, and marginal .A number of others got in on this act: the Rolling Stones (*Monkey Man),* the Kinks (*Apeman),* David Bowie ("Look at that cave-man go…"on *Life on Mars*), and Blue Oyster Cult (Subhuman.)

Captain Beefheart`s poem Apes-Ma (on his 1978 record *Shiny Beast*) is probably a Bigfoot or Sasquatch. Moby Grape recorded their controversial fifth album *20 Granite Creek* (1971) in a house in the wooded hills above Santa Cruz, where there have been Bigfoot sightings. Close to this Granite Creek Road is Mystery Spot Road, where gravity,allegedly, is compromised (*The Rough Guide to California,* p.409) The ambience is described as "freaky and inexplicable": trees lean at bizarre angles,pendulums spin widdershins , and balls appear

to roll uphill. It is hardly surprising this Grape offering is freaky and inexplicable as well!

I know of only two pieces of music relating to "winged weirdos". Amon Düül II come up trumps again with a belter on *Yeti* called "Archangel Thunderbird", and the 1970 LP *Macdonald and Giles* - an acclaimed King Crimson spin-off- contains a side-long suite called *Birdman,* which Robert Fripp wanted to be Side Two of *In The Wake of Poseidon* .It wasn`t.

Atomic Rooster is an interesting name, from our point of view, and the cover of their self-titled album of 1970 features a bird,more like a raptor than a rooster,with women`s breasts.This reminded me of the Da Nang birdwoman who said "Good evening,Vietnam!" Around the time of Woodstock. Roosters are male, which makes the image even more Fortean - or maybe zoology wasn`t the cover artist`s forte.

Henry Cow`s subversive 1974 opus Unrest begins with *Bittern Storm Over Ulm,* which is certainly Fortean if we envisage these skulking denizens of reed-beds falling from the sky. Their previous record *Leg End* (1973) contains a track called Nirvana For Mice, which dovetails (rat-kings?) With the Amon Düül II album title *Dance of the Lemmings.* Lemmings,of course,are very Fortean creatures as there is a school of thought that they descend from the sky (Rickard and Michell, *Unexplained Phenomena: A Rough Guide Special* (2000) ,p.35)

I have two references to black dogs: one of the last tracks Nick Drake recorded was *Black-Eyed Dog* - a harbinger of his death - and folk-rock band Heron, noted for recording in the open air, lived in the early 1970s in a Devon village called Black Dog, and gave this title to a reunion in the late 90s.

As for unicorns,they feature in two pieces of psychedelia. *Something New* by Dino Valenti (later of Quicksilver Messenger Service),on his self-titled album of 1968, and *Flowers (Did You Dream of Unicorns)* by Tom Rapp`s Pearls Before Swine, on their 1970 LP City of Gold. Much later New Kingdom, a rap-rock fusion act from the 90s, released a CD called *Paradise Don`t Come Cheap*, featuring a track called *Unicorns Were Horses.*

The only composition I am aware of that refers to marine cryptids is Jim Morrison`s *Horse Latitudes* (on the 1968 Doors LP *Waiting For The Sun*), which mentions "tiny monsters". Captain Beefheart has affinities with this field. With a name like that, it`s hardly surprising (a man with a cow`s heart):appropriately,

he was one of Henry Cow`s first influences when they started off at Cambridge University playing “Dada blues”. His strangest album (and possibly the strangest ever released by anybody) Trout Mask Replica has a track called Neon *Meate Dream Of A Octafish.* Whatever this species is, its imagination is pornographic. Beefheart`s own painting on the cover of *Shiny Beast* depicts a man and a woman with horse - or goat - like animal heads.

A few more references to round up…I could hardly leave out Warren Zevon`s *Werewolves of London*: I especially like “ The hairy-headed gent/who ran amok in Kent” (so did the bat-man monstrosity of Hythe in 1963). Blue Oyster Cult`s 1981 LP *Cultosaurus Erectus* has some droll cod-Heuvelmanesque sleeve notes, and Neon Park`s cover design for Little Feat`s *The Last Record Album* (1975) features a jackalope. Last but by no means least,Gong released a reunion album in 1997 called *Shapeshifter,* and have their own Unconvention like Fortean Times.

At this point,over to anyone who knows about music after that date…

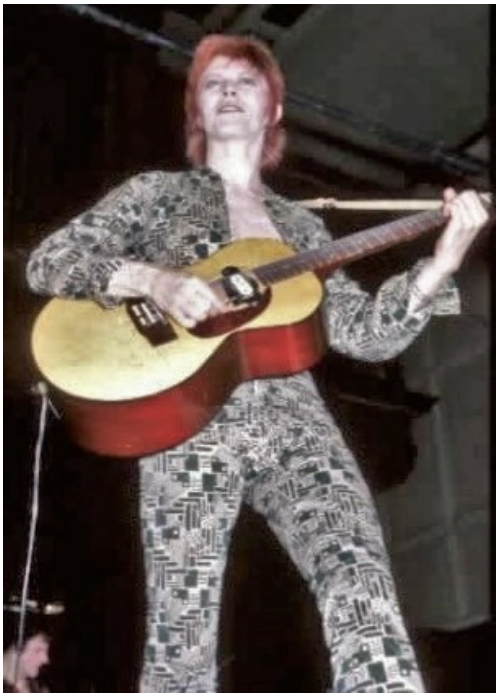


Fig 1. David Bowie during Ziggy Stardust tour 1972-74. Wikipedia Creative Commons.

Chatterbox.

The Wolf, from Life by W. Kevl.

Nov 2nd 1867

Notes & Queries

Musical Mouse Regarded Rare Find By Nebraska University Professor

A musical mouse is the astonishing nimal described by Dr. Edwin B. owers of the University of Nebraska n the forthcoming number of the ournal of Mammalogy.

According to Dr. Powers' story, Dr. I. A. Morgan, a friend of his, was othered for three or four nights last pring by a singing noise, which for a hile was attributed to a leaky radia- or valve. Curiosity finally, getting he better of Dr. Morgan, he began a earch for the source of the noise, and ound that it was not coming from the adiator, but from a different part of he room. To his dismay, he found hat the noise was coming from a aste-paper basket. Upon shaking the asket, a mouse ran out and Dr. Mor- an gave chase.

The mouse ran into a small room from which there was no escape. As soon as the chase was stopped the mouse would sit up on its haunches and sing, the singing approximating the noise made by the cricket, but much more continuous. For 10 or 15 minutes before the mouse was captured it was in open space and under constant observation, and every time it came to rest this singing would take place, even under the excitement of the chase. The mouse was finally captured, but was fatally injured during the capture and died the next day, in spite of effort to keep it alive for further observation. It was turned over to a naturalist, who identified it as the common variety of house mouse.

MUSICAL MOUSE

The Sunday Star Washington D.C. Sept 6th 1925

Killed a Strange Animal

Special to The Inquirer.

PORT ELIZABETH, N. J., Jan. 9.—A peculiar animal is being exhibited here by a party of hunters. They were chasing foxes and finally struck the trail of a large animal which ran like a wolf. The animal was seen by one of the party and shot. The strange quadruped is neither fox nor wolf, but is said by animal experts to be a member of the hyena family.

POSSIBLY A HYENA

Philadelphia Inquirer January 10th 1905

SAINT PATRICK'S NAME INVOKED TO FREE PORTO RICO

Ireland's Patron Credited With Driving Insect Pests From West Indies 'Way Back in Sixteenth Century

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Thursday, March 19.—March 17 is not kept as a "dia de fiesta" in Porto Rico, but according to a legend this island as well as Ireland shared in the benefactions of Saint Patrick. A thousand years after he drove the snakes from the Emerald Isle he is credited with freeing Porto Rico from a scourge of insects.

The story of Saint Patrick's intervention is told by the late Cayetano M. Colly Toste for many years the island's official historian in Porto Rican Traditions and Legends.

According to Dr. Colly Toste about the middle of the sixteenth century, during a period of prolonged drought, there was a plague of plant destroying insects and ferocious ants. The latter made their way into the homes and tormented and even endangered the lives of the children.

Saints Appealed To.

Bishop Alonzo Manso was urged by his parishioners to seek the intercession of a powerful saint to rid the island of the pest. The Bishop called a council meeting and put the matter before his associates who decided that it would be discreet and proper to draw lots to discover to what saint supplication should be made.

The names of the different saints of the church were written on slips of paper and drawn from a box. After a ferverent prayer a slip was drawn and passed to Don Alonso's secretary who read in a loud voice "Saint Patrick."

Since Ireland's patron was hardly known here those present naturally gazed at each other with astonishment. They expected, the historian states, the name of Saint Joseph, or some other well known saint.

Twice He "Appeared."

Although they were disposed "to respect the will of heaven" when one of their number suggested that it might be well to repeat the drawing they agreed. Thereupon a slip was drawn from the box again and for the second time it read "Saint Patrick." So the congregation were advised to address their prayers to Ireland's apostle. Saint Patrick's intercession was effective for there came torrential rains that ended the drought and the insect scourge.

Devotions to St. Patrick continued for about a century, the historian states, but later fell into disuse.

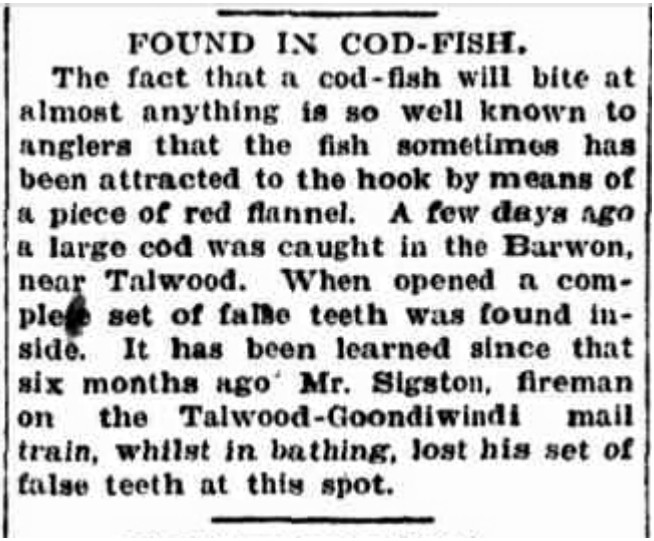
ST PATRICK AND PUERTO RICO`S INSECTS

Seattle Daily Times March 19th 1931

FALSE TEETH IN A COD

Queensland Times April 21st 1924

Thanks to Loes Modderman



FOUND IN COD-FISH.

The fact that a cod-fish will bite at almost anything is so well known to anglers that the fish sometimes has been attracted to the hook by means of a piece of red flannel. A few days ago a large cod was caught in the Barwon, near Talwood. When opened a complete set of false teeth was found inside. It has been learned since that six months ago Mr. Sigston, fireman on the Talwood-Goondiwindi mail train, whilst in bathing, lost his set of false teeth at this spot.

PART - CAT PART - MONKEY?

Repository (Ohio)

December 28th 1940

An unidentified animal was found dead this week in the timber near Warren,Pennsylvania. It had the long tail of a monkey,padded feet with fingers like those of a monkey but the head resembled that of an ordinary cat and was well equipped with teeth. Hundreds of hunters and others viewed the animal but could not give it a name.

END OF GIANT DINGO ON BROADMEADOWS

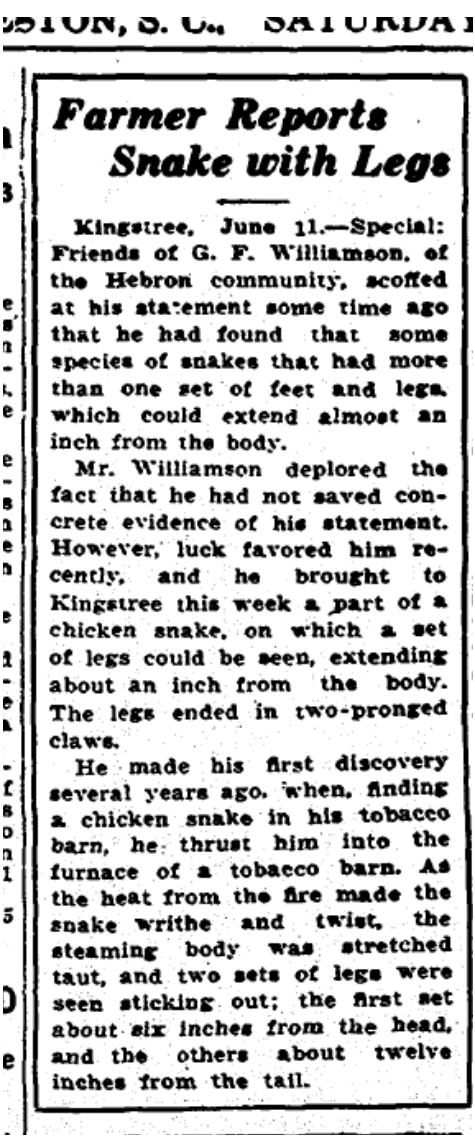
ter evading numerous attempts on its life for months, this giant dingo was finally ot on Henry Beak and Sons' cattle property, Broadmeadows, Nankin, late on Wednesday evening.

SUPPOSED GIANT DINGO

February 8th 1952

Morning Bulletin Queensland

SNAKE WITH LEGS



Farmer Reports Snake with Legs

Kingstree, June 11.—Special: Friends of G. F. Williamson, of the Hebron community, scoffed at his statement some time ago that he had found that some species of snakes that had more than one set of feet and legs, which could extend almost an inch from the body.

Mr. Williamson deplored the fact that he had not saved concrete evidence of his statement. However, luck favored him recently, and he brought to Kingstree this week a part of a chicken snake, on which a set of legs could be seen, extending about an inch from the body. The legs ended in two-pronged claws.

He made his first discovery several years ago, when, finding a chicken snake in his tobacco barn, he thrust him into the furnace of a tobacco barn. As the heat from the fire made the snake writhe and twist, the steaming body was stretched taut, and two sets of legs were seen sticking out; the first set about six inches from the head, and the others about twelve inches from the tail.

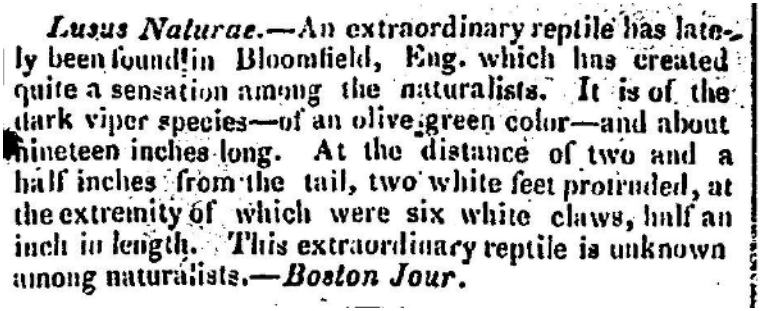
The News and Courier, Charleston S.Carolina June 12th 1937

FISHERMEN `SEE` 70-FOOT MONSTER

Winona Republican Herald September 13th 1935

Boston (AP) "Not only Adelbert Langthorne, but 22 other fishermen insist they saw a 70-feet, eel-like sea monster raise its crocodile-like head 20 feet out of the ocean on Western bank.

The men, crew of the Gloucester fishing schooner Imperator,said the monster calmly surveyed their vessel until they reached for their swordfish harpoons. Then, apparently without fins, it swam off along the surface like a water snake."



Lusus Naturae.—An extraordinary reptile has lately been found in Bloomfield, Eng. which has created quite a sensation among the naturalists. It is of the dark viper species—of an olive green color—and about nineteen inches long. At the distance of two and a half inches from the tail, two white feet protruded, at the extremity of which were six white claws, half an inch in length. This extraordinary reptile is unknown among naturalists.—*Boston Jour.*

There is a Bloomfield in N.Ireland but also near Dudley,(W.Midlands)

VERY ODD SNAKE

Charleston Courier July 14th 1835

The following is a Deſcription of a wonderful large Ox, that was ſhewn in Gloceſter, to Two Thouſand People and upwards in three Days:

IT reſembles an Elephant in the Hind Parts, but much larger; he has been ſhewn twice before the Royal Family, and has travelled two thouſand Miles round; the Property of Anthony Mills, Butcher, who bought the ſame to be weighed alive, and was weighed at Norwich, April 16, 1765, and weighed then 243 Stone one Pound, 14lb. to the Stone; he was weighed again March 7, 1766, and weighed then 258 Stone nine Pounds, 14lb. to the Stone. He is much admired for his extraordinary Fat and Beauty.

And meaſures in Length from Noſe to Rump 12 Feet and ten Inches; in Girt twelve Feet and a half; and is eighteen hands and a half high; and for which the noted Mr. Croſs, who travels with the Lion, bid the Proprietor, when at Birmingham, 180 Guineas.

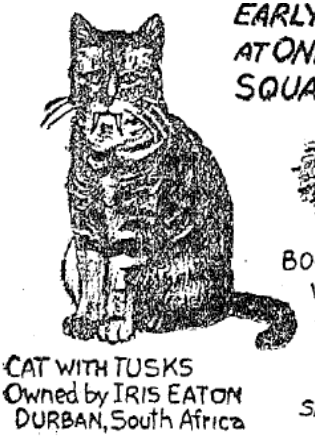
N. B. He is greatly improved ſince the Proprietor laſt weighed him; and is allowed by the London Butchers and Saleſmen in Smithfield (who have ſeen them) to be a much ſuperiour Ox to that now ſhewn in London, or that lately killed there.

Mr. Wallet of Lincolnſhire, who bred him has been bid 70 Guineas for the Cow he came of.

On the 30th of January laſt a Hog Pig, fed at Crew, of the following Weight, was killed by Mr. Meek, Hog-Butcher, at Congleton in Cheſhire; one Side weighed 314lb. the Head, Feet, Backbone, Fat, and Haſlet, 223lb. in the whole amounting to 850lb.

HUGE OX New York Journal

June 4th 1767



CAT WITH FANGS

Ripley`s Believe It Or Not

The Oregonian May 11th 1939

VERY STRANGE WHITE AND GREEN ANIMAL

Hartford Daily Courant

March 2nd 1872

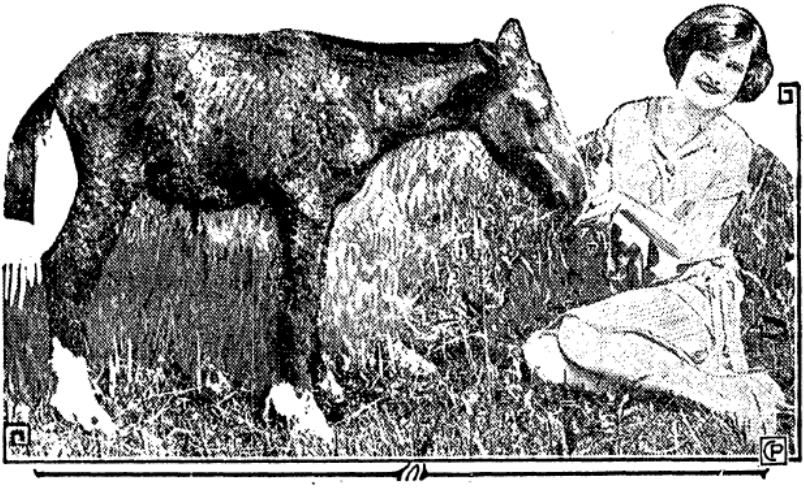
An Illinoisan claims to have struggled with and killed a strange animal which has heretofore been unknown to natural historians. It weighed ninety-eight pounds, was white as snow, had a green tail of twenty-four inches covered with green hair four inches long, slender ears two inches long, blood-red eyes, three toes on each foot, with nails like those of a biped, a black stripe under the belly from the fore legs to the head, very small feet, and flat head like that of a badger. The description implies an equal knowledge of grammar, anatomy, and the nondescript beast.

A LYNX IN POTT- SHRIGLEY CHESHIRE?

Yahoo Answers

Early on Sunday morning, the 13th May 2007, I and two other people saw a Lynx type cat near Pott Shrigley in Cheshire. It was dark brown with black striations, around 3 and a half to 4 feet long and between 2 and 2 and a half feet high at the shoulder. It had large ears and a very very short tail. I reported the sighting to the police but have not heard anything since. Has anyone else in Cheshire seen anything similar and has it been mentioned on local radio or T.V. In the that area? Any other big cat sightings…genuine ones?

WHAT IS THIS ANIMAL, HORSE, PONY OR JACKASS?



Toronto.—This strange animal, shown above with its owner on a farm in Ontario, Canada, is a puzzle even to experts. Although the little fellow is full grown, he s tands only 39 inches high and his body is about the size of a full-grown sheep. He has a head like a pony, forelegs and hoofs of a horse, hind legs, hoofs and tail of an ass, and a woolly coat that resembles none of them.

WEIRD QUADRUPED

The Evening Repository Canton,Ohio.

August 19th 1927

SASQUATCH?

San Francisco Bulletin

April 11th 1891

"Woodland is in excitement over a report that a strange creature, "much resembling a gorilla" has been seen in the hills adjacent to Capay Valley. The story is vouched for by more than one responsible man. It is said to be at least six feet tall when standing erect, travels on all fours, climbs trees, and has wonderful strength in its hands. It has a shaggy covering."

CROSS IN THE SKY

Kalamazoo Gazette

February 19th 1898

RED CROSS IN THE SKY.

Odd Phenomenon Seen From the Nyack Hills Just Before Sunset.

Several persons living west of Nyack Hills, N. Y., witnessed a phenomenon in the sky a little before sunset a few evenings ago that filled them with awe. The sun was a short distance above the horizon, with its face nearly hidden by clouds, when part of the clouds suddenly seemed to melt away, and the sun shone partly through those that remained with a blood red light in the form of a perfect cross.

This sight did not last long, but for a few moments it looked as if a cross of crimson had been set in the sky just above the western hills. It was so perfect in form that superstitious persons were very nervous over the strange phenomenon.—New York Herald.

VISION OF A CROSS

Council Bluffs Nonparail (Iowa) May 8th 1944.This was about 1 month before the D-Day Landings.

C

Vision in Sky Seen by Vicar as Good Omen

Jesus on Cross Said to Have Been Seen by Hundreds

IPSWICH, England, (AP)—The Rev. Harold Godfrey Green, vicar of St. Nicholas church and chaplain to British forces, said Monday he had verified "quite definitely" the story of hundreds of Ipswich residents who said they saw a vision of Jesus on a cross in the sky during an April 27 air raid alert.

"There was scarcely any variation—if any—in these accounts," he said after extensive conversations with residents in this East Anglian coast town. "Hundreds of persons have said they saw the sign clearly."

Nearly 800 townspeople crowded St. Nicholas church—which seats only 500—for a sermon on the vision Sunday, when the vicar said: "I have satisfied myself beyond doubt of the authenticity of the vision. I regard the sign as a good omen . . . I did not myself see the sign and for this I am sorry."

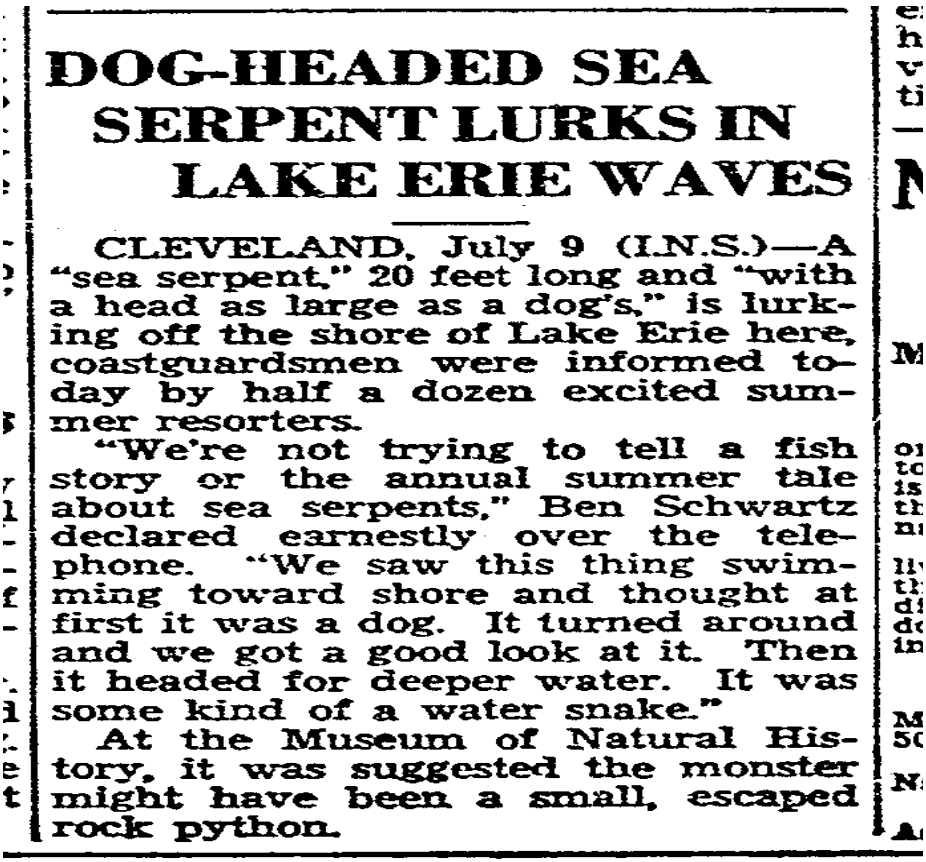
The vision was said to have lasted 15 minutes. It first took form in the shape of a large white cross, the chaplain was told, and then the form of Jesus appeared.

"His head was bowed and his feet crossed—all who saw agree on these details," he said. "When it disappeared it did not drift away like clouds but vanished instantly and entirely."

Other clouds in the sky were said to have drifted by while the vision remained stationary.

Some who did not see it suggested the vision might have resulted from light on ice crystals in the air, but there was no agreement on any proferred explanations.

—Save Your Tin Cans—



DOG-HEADED SEA SERPENT LURKS IN LAKE ERIE WAVES

CLEVELAND, July 9 (I.N.S.)—A "sea serpent," 20 feet long and "with a head as large as a dog's," is lurking off the shore of Lake Erie here, coastguardsmen were informed today by half a dozen excited summer resorters.

"We're not trying to tell a fish story or the annual summer tale about sea serpents," Ben Schwartz declared earnestly over the telephone. "We saw this thing swimming toward shore and thought at first it was a dog. It turned around and we got a good look at it. Then it headed for deeper water. It was some kind of a water snake."

At the Museum of Natural History, it was suggested the monster might have been a small, escaped rock python.

DOG-HEADED LAKE SERPENT

The San Diego Union July 10th 1934

GIANT EGG IN HAITI

Haiti Sun March 25th 1962

GIANT EGG MYSTERY IN CAP HAITIEN

Two Monstruosities (sic) Of Nature Uncovered

In its last edition,the cap Haitien weekly " Le Nouveau Monde" revealed a curious instance of the overgrowth of the terminal flower of a banana tree. The abnormal event was disclosed at Haut-du Cap, in the vicinity of Le Cap.

LIONS (OR WHAT?) IN FRANCE 1930s

The Montreal Gazette January 12th 1931

STRANGE ANIMALS SEEN

Beasts With Lion Head and Hyena Feet Are Bullet-proof

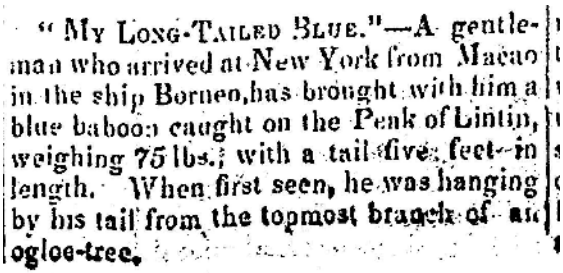
(Special Cable to The New York Times and Montreal Gazette.)

Paris, January 11.—The mythical animals of Agen, which looked like lions and left hyena tracks, have reappeared after six months absence. Today they appeared at the town of Albi, being vouched for by two Gendarmes.

As an addition to their other legendary qualities, the animals now seem bullet-proof. At least the gendarmes failed to shoot them, although called especially for that purpose and armed with rifles.

The animals of Agen created great excitement in France last spring when Agen peasants reported their presence. Some people believed they were lions which had escaped from a circus and others that they were prehistoric animals. The greatest mystery, in fact, was that their feet did not match their bodies. Matter of fact people expressed the opinion that they were cows.

The animals, examined today through a telescope by a functionary of Albi, were declared to have no resemblance to any European domestic animals. The official phoned the gendarmerie and two gendarmes were sent with rifles to kill the beasts. The animals, however, were not hurt by gun fire and after a mile chase disappeared in the forest.



"My Long-Tailed Blue."—A gentleman who arrived at New York from Macao in the ship Borneo, has brought with him a blue baboon caught on the Peak of Lintin, weighing 75 lbs.; with a tail five feet in length. When first seen, he was hanging by his tail from the topmost branch of an ogloe-tree.

BLUE BABOONS FROM MACAO

Bennington Banner Vermont

September 13th

1842

DEATH ROW PARDON FOR THE FISH IN A WELL

With apologies to R.E.M.[1]

STRANGE FISH FROM A WELL.

TOOGOOLAWAH, September 14.—Of late, Mr. A. J. Brown, of Fulham Vale, has found strange small fishes in the pipes of his irrigation system, for which the water is pumped from a covered well sunk in the gravel and sand beds about 200yds. from Cressbrook Creek. One was sent to the Queensland Museum for identification. The Acting Director, Mr. Tom C. Marshall, has replied as follows—

"The small fish from a well near Cressbrook Creek is most interesting. It is quite new to me. From a rough examination, it appears to be nearest to the fresh water cat-fish family. I am unable to arrive at a definite determination from this specimen, as its mouth and head parts are badly damaged. It is apparently blind, but the position of the orbits may be traced under the skin of the head. Blind fishes are found in various parts of the world, but none have been reported from Australia. I am unable to offer any explanation as to how these fishes got into the well, or to venture further opinion until the species is determined. If a larger specimen in perfect condition is sent, we shall be pleased."

Queensland Times September 16th 1941

Thanks to Loes Modderman

[1] REM Boy in the Well off LP `Around the Sun`

LIZARD IN A BLOCK OF COAL

I found this in a booklet called `Believe It Or Not. It Happened In Yorkshire`. By Cyril T.Oxley (2nd ed) p.32: " Where was a Lizard found inside a solid block of coal 150 ft below the surface of the earth? At William Fenton`s mine at Outwood,Wakefield,in 1818.The reptile was discovered in a solid block of coal and was 5 inches long. Upon being exposed to the air the creature died immediately."

BIRD MAKING TIGER NOISES

Fort-Worth Star Telegram

April 17th 1911

BIRD FOUND WHICH GROWLS LIKE TIGER

COMANCHE, Texas, April 17.—A strange bird, declared to be a tigersuma, which growls like a tiger and in other respects resembles that beast, was captured by the young sons of Sam Switzer while hunting in the pasture.

As the boys approached the bird it is said it did not attempt to fly, but made ready to attack by rushing them. Instead of shooting the bird, the boys threw a hat over its head.

Upon careful examination the bird showed to be about the size of an average hen; it has stripes like a tiger; the head is very small, long and sharp, and has a pointed bill, four inches in length. The eyes are closely set and as quick and flashy as lightning.

CATCH WEIRD ANIMAL

ALBERT LEA, MINN., March 30. —A new and strange animal was discovered in Bancroft Township by Emil Halvorson, who was hunting. It appeared larger than a fox, and when pursued jumped upon the trunk of a aree and was soon in the topmost branches. Later in the day another of the species was captured. The animal resembles a fox, has light red fur about the neck and head, but the rest of the fur is light gray, with a jet black stripe down the back. It is thought the animal is a hybrid or else has strayed here from its native haunts.

WEIRD ANIMAL Trenton Evening Times April 11th 1916

THE SEA SERPENT ON LAND.—A dispatch from Red Clay, Ga., says farmers living near the State line are greatly excited over a serpent with wings that is destroying children, yearlings, sheep and hogs in the mountains. The reptile is described as being 39 feet long, with two legs, and wings fully 20 feet long. The body is black and scaly and is as big around as a large barrel One hundred farmers will turn out with Winchesters and endeavor to kill the snake. Two little girls are known to have been carried off by this air-snake.

SEA SERPENT ON LAND

Alexandria Gazette Virginia July 23rd 1891

Thanks to Kay Coggin

MILLIONS OF TOADS CROSSING THE DALLES-CALIFORNIA ROAD

Automobiles Plow Through Miles of Little Animals Migrating From Marshes to Higher Land for Winter Months.

"WE ALL are sober men," said Ray C. Steele, United States district game warden, "but we doubted ourselves when it seemed that the road was moving out from under us, sideways.

"We were driving on The Dalles-California highway along the east shore of Upper Klamath lake, about 8:30 or 9 o'clock at night. There were Harold Clifford, the state game warden; Paul G. Redington, the chief of the United States biological survey; Dr. Rudolph Snyder of the bureau of animal industry; L. T. Jessup, drainage engineer for the department of agriculture, and myself.

"Our attention was attracted by moving objects in the road. The road seemed to be covered with them. They all were moving in one direction across the road. They looked a good deal like dead leaves being blown across the road.

"We stopped and got out. We stepped on them. They were toads. Little ones, thousands of them. Our car had been killing hundreds of them. There were lots of other cars on the road, doing the same thing. The toads were moving from the marshland to the higher ground. They were about the size of a dollar. The live ones were hopping right over the dead ones and continuing the migration.

"For seven or eight miles we drove through them. It was raining, and it reminded us of the stories people sometimes tell that it 'rains toads.'

"We drove along that road again the next night and there was hardly a toad carcass to be seen. I don't know what happened to them. Maybe crows and magpies ate them. Maybe the rain washed them off the road. Maybe the traffic on the road had something to do with it. All I know is there were only a few left."

Harold Clifford added to the story.

"When we drove along there about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, toads were moving across about one mile of the road," he said. "When we passed that night they were crossing 12 miles of the road. Yes, sir. Twelve to 15 miles. Ray Steele doesn't know his distances if he says seven or eight miles. I looked it up on the map. There was a toad on every square foot of the road, and in some places they were thicker.

"There were millions of them, and that's only those that were on the road. It was the strangest thing I ever saw."

Stanley G. Jewett, leader in Oregon of predatory animal control for the United States biological survey, is one of the few persons Mr. Steele found yesterday who immediately believed the toad story.

"They're most likely Hammond's spadefoot toads," said Mr. Jewett. "I saw such a migration in that same locality four years ago, and another in the Catlow valley of southern Harney county in August, 1912. In the Catlow valley there were just acres of toads. I took some specimens and looked up the classification.

"The species is named for a man named Hammond who first distinguished them. They are called spadefoots because of a round callous-like growth on the soles of their hind feet. The eggs are hatched in low ground and when the toads are grown they migrate to higher ground. After that they're seldom seen above the ground except when it rains."

Mr. Jewett likened the toads' migrations to those of the lemmings of Scandinavia, about which Carveth Wells tells.

"When the migratory urge gets hold of animals subject to it, it takes more than streams of automobiles or an ocean to stop them," he said.

MILLIONS OF TOADS CROSS ROAD

AIR SERPENT Republican Star Maryland November 11th 1828

An 'Air Serpent' has lately been seen in Alabama by several witnesses. It appeared to the eye of the observer about 20 feet long, and 3 broad; and its motion and appearance are described as 'gentle and undulating, graceful, terrible and sublime.' The long abscence of the famous Sea Serpent from our waters is now accounted for.

MASSIVE FROGS

Columbus Daily Inquirer (Georgia) March

A Monstrous Frog.—John Chields, a son of Erin and faithful specimen of the genus homo, gives an interesting account of a wonderful discovery of his, a few days ago — While ditching a pond in the surburbs of the town he says he dug up some very large "ithrogs," one of which he fully believes would have weighed 100 pounds. This mighty "ithrog" was encountered about 3½ feet in the earth embedded in the *solid clay*, without the slightest appearance of any means of ingress or egress. Said "ithrog," according to Pat's story, and which he stands up to, was, the mother or patriarch of a numerous progeny, around her, several of which said "young ones" he believed would weigh thirteen pounds each.

Pat insists upon the truth of his statement and does not at all relish contradiction, or fun at the expense of his integrity.

[Thomasville Enterprise.

Now there is something very strange (and if you don`t believe `Flying Snake` is strange, read Flying Snakes 1 - 10!) about this "ithrog". If it was a kind of frog, the heaviest frogs on record weigh 2lb, whilst this one was a massive 100lb!

Richmond Times Dispatch March 14th 1951

CONGO SNAKE?

—Game Commission Photo by Kesteloo

WHAT IS IT?—C. A. Blue, of Petersburg, who found this creature in Chesterfield County, didn't know. Neither did two game wardens he showed it to. But experts at the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries finally decided it was a Congo snake, an amphibious member of the giant salamander family. The top portion of the composite photo shows most of the two-foot length of the creature. The bottom portion is a close-up of its eye-less head. Unlike a snake, the salamander has four tiny legs. None of the experts involved had ever seen one before in Virginia.

New Wonder Animal Discovered in Northern Minnesota

Description—Claws of Bear, Hoofs of Cow, Back of Bull, Belly of Monkey, Ears of Hippopotamus, Eyes of Gnu, Upper Lip of Sea Cow, Hind Legs of Moose, and the Posture of a Kangaroo.

News Tribune Camera Man Snaps Composite Creature

GENTLEMEN: THIS IS MINNIE

"MINNIE" WHIFFIN-POOFIT, sole survivor of the mighty herds of whiffin-poofits which roamed the primeval forests of northern Minnesota ages ago, is in Duluth!

Her pensive wanderings through the Superior national forest, urged by a fickle instinct which told her that some day she would hearken to the call of her mate, have come to an end.

There is no mate for Minnie. The last descendant of her forbears, the wimpus-wallopus, the galloping-goofus and the shortear shagamaw, passed away ages ago, according to Duluth geologists.

How long Minnie has lived in these northern forests none seems to know. Recently tourists of other states, returning from trips through Minnesota, have reported having found the tracks of a strange animal—half moose, half bear, with the hind legs of one and the fore legs of the other.

* * *

W. T. Cox, state forester, expressed a belief that the outlandish creature was none other than a member of the species of tote-road shagamaw, which infested the Maine woods until recently. Mr. Cox described the tote-road shagamaw as half moose, half bear, and with the head and features of a composite of cow and monkey.

A News Tribune camera man, fortified with a description of the animal as it appeared in the evening Herald, yesterday invaded the woods in search of Minnie.

He found her.

And, anticipating that the cynical editor would prove sceptic, despite the story in the evening Herald and the photo, he brought Minnie to Duluth with him.

The picture shows Minnie glancing inquiringly over her shoulder at the sound of the camera's click.

Her capture was a tame affair, according to the camera man. He merely pursed up his lips, cupped his hands, and emitted an imitation of the love call of the whiffin-poofit. Minnie answered with a little moo of joy, and ambled to the side of the photographer without fear. It then was a simple matter to lead her into the city.

* * *

Minnie's identity was established last night by Arthur H. Carhart, recreation engineer of the U. S. forestry service. She resembles a tote-road shagamaw, he said, but is in reality a direct decendant of the whiffin-poofit branch of the wimpus-wallabus species.

While the News Tribune is negotiating with Capt. Henry Cleveland, city park superintendent for a home for Minnie in one of Duluth's sylvan beauty spots, Minnie is being accomodated at a Duluth hotel.

Tomorrow a feminine photographer of the News Tribune will seek to pre-

PROBABLY A HOAX

Duluth News-Tribune July 27th 1921

ODD RAY?

From a Chinese language web site

THE MADSTONE.

In all popular opinions, superstitions, and usages, there is doubtless something instructive and worth examination. The notion that a peculiar stone called the Madstone, has the power of counteracting hydrophobia, appears entirely ludicrous to the man of science. Yet there may be some facts in connection with this notion, which are worth observation. The following narrative from an intelligent correspondent appears to indicate the source of Madstone.

Greenville, Bond Co., Ill.

Dr. Buchanan:

Dear Sir:—I herewith transmit you some information, which I believe will prove interesting to your readers, in regard to that natural curiosity, known as the Madstone.

These facts were communicated to me by a neighbor, Mr. Gracie, one of our old Illinois pioneers.

Mr. Balch had a young son bitten in the hand more than a year since by a mad dog. Mr. Balch's first prompting was to try the efficacy of the Madstone. So immediately mounting boy and self on horseback, he started to seek such stone—came on to the house of his friend Gracie. Gracie had heard of one near Marine, some twenty miles farther. Balch and son rode on toward that place—passed through Highland—could hear of no Madstone there—on to Marine—none there, but a physician four miles north of Marine—whose name Gracie had forgotten—was said to have one in his possession; so to this physician came Balch and his boy.

"Many imagine themselves bitten by rabid animals when they are not," remarked the doctor. "But I can soon tell how the case stands with you." He produced the stone—ordered a bowl of warm milk and water, and proceeded to move the stone about gently in it. When the stone had by this process become thoroughly warmed, it was applied to the wound, which was on the back of the boy's hand, where the dog's fang had torn down the flesh about an inch. The bowl of milk and water was placed underneath the extended hand.

"If there is any virus in the system," said the doctor confidently, "the stone will adhere, otherwise it will fall off." The stone adhered. For thirty minutes it clung to the lad's hand, then loosened and fell into the bowl. The physician proceeded to move the stone back and forth therein for the same length of time it had adhered to the wound, "in order," as he explained it, "to make it discharge the poison it had drawn from the wound." Again he placed the stone. It did not remain on the boy's hand so long as at first, before it fell off. It was then soaked and applied a third time, when it clung only ten minutes. On the fourth application it refused to adhere at all. "Ah," exclaimed the kind physician, as the stone splashed back into the bowl, "you are rid of all poison now, my boy."

Mr. Balch wished to borrow the stone and bring it home with him, as one of his neighbors had been bitten at the same time with his boy. But the doctor hesitated. "I value the stone at a thousand dollars," said he, "and harm might come to it." Balch however succeeded in obtaining the loan of it from the owner, and on his way home stopped at Gracie's to show it.

Gracie described the stone to me as being perfectly round—color, a clear and beautiful buff, size less than two inches in diameter. "And this is a Madstone," mused Gracie, as taking it in his hand he turned it over and shook it. "Well! well! I saw one of them years ago, and didn't know it. Where did this come from?"

"The doctor said he bought it of a hunter in Missouri, who told him he found it in the paunch of an elk, for," added Balch, "all Madstones come from elks."

"The doctor said he bought it of a hunter in Missouri, who told him he found it in the paunch of an elk, for," added Balch, "all Madstones come from elks."

"I am sure I saw one from another place," replied Gracie.

And it seems some twenty-five years before, Gracie had helped a neighbor butcher a young heifer. While engaged in cleaning the paunch of the animal, preparatory to making tripe of it, the mistress of the house suddenly held up something which looked like a large orange, and cried out, "See what a pretty rock I found in the critter's paunch."

It was a beautiful stone resembling this one Balch had, only larger. It was examined with great curiosity, all wondering how it got into the heifer," "sure it was too large for her to swallow, &c." One endeavored to cut it with his knife. This he could only do as we can cut a common slate pencil. On shaking it there appeared something loose within. Curious to see what this might be, one submitted the stone to a heavy blow. It immediately flew into small powdery particles, and crushed in the centre," concluded neighbor Gracie, "we found a little mass of white jelly-like substance."

N. B. Mr. Balch's son never felt any ill-effect from the bite after the application as described. The wound immediately healed. o. s. w.

August, 1855.

THE M ADSTONE CURE FOR HYDROPHOBIA

Buchanon`s Journal of Man volume 5

December 12th 1855

Thanks to Loes Modderman

The second anecdote appears in the elaborate work of Messrs. Kirby and Spence. "In March, 1816, an Ass was shipped at Gibraltar on board the Ister frigate, Capt. Forrester, which was bound for Malta. The vessel being stuck on the sands off the Point de Gat, at some distance from the shore, the ass was thrown overboard to give it a chance of swimming to land—a poor one, for the sea was ruing so high, that a boat which left the ship was lost. A few days afterwards, however, when the gates of Gibraltar were opened in the morning, the ass presented himself for admission, and proceeded to the stable which he had formerly occupied, to the no small surprise of its former owner, who imagined that, from some accident, the animal had not been shipped on board the Ister.

On the return of this vessel to repair, however, the mystery was explained, and it turned out to be that Valiante (so the ass was called) had only swam safely to shore, but without guide, compass, or travelling map, had found his way from Point de Gat to Gibraltar, a distance of more than two hundred miles, which he had never travelled before, through a mountainous and intricate country, intersected by streams, and in so short a period, that he could not have made one false turn. His not having been stopped on the road was attributed to the circumstance of his formerly having been used to whip criminals upon, which was indicated to the peasants, who have a superstitious horror of such asses, by the holes in their ears, to which the persons flogged were tied."

SWIMMING ABILITY OF AN ASS

Extracted from Rockford Forum Illinois January 19th 1848

POSSIBLY A WOLF FISH

The Daily Olympian

March 28th 1939

Not in years has a stranger of the deep aroused the interest which the denizen pictured above, held by Ed McDowell, created when displayed here Monday. —Photo by Staff Photographer

Ancient Egyptians in Yorkshire

E-mail from Richard Colborne April 5th 2016

Ancient Egyptians' Links To Yorkshire Uncovered

Dating back five millennia in a land thousands of miles away, Ancient Egypt could scarcely seem further removed from modern day Yorkshire. But now the "amazing" discovery that Egyptian mummies were buried near Barnsley nearly 2,000 years ago has been revealed by the curator of a new exhibition which shows the civilisation has closer links with the region than ever previously imagined. Egyptologist Joann Fletcher, who was born in the town, said: "There is more and more evidence that this was happening and we are undertaking scientific analysis to underpin this really amazing possibility. "You don't think 2,000 years ago that Ancient Egyptians came to Yorkshire – but they did."The practice of embalming and wrapping the dead in linen was brought to England by the Romans, the University of York professor and BBC TV presenter said. But analysis of bones found in Yorkshire dating back to this time has found some of the mummies were born and raised in North Africa. "It really does widen your horizons – in some ways it blows your mind," she said. The Romans Are Coming exhibition, which is now open at the new Experience Barnsley museum at the town hall, features an AD 300- 400 mummy cast that would have encased a child's body. Gypsum plaster was used to cover embalmed, linen-wrapped corpses to protect them from Yorkshire's damp climate. "We have certainly got evidence that the Romans in our part of the world were embalming,mummifying and wrapping in linen their dead, according to – we believe – Egyptian customs," she said. Examples of this have been discovered in Pollington, a few miles north of Barnsley and Doncaster, as well as in York and Castleford. And evidence of burial sites around Thurnscoe, near Barnsley, has also recently been found, Dr Fletcher said ."More work needs to be done because this is just the

tip of the iceberg," she added. "I'm wanting to put together a comprehensive picture of the whole of the Barnsley area – where people lived, where they farmed, where they worked, where they were buried, where they worshipped." She added: "Come back in 10 years and we'll have a much better idea.

"We've only just started looking to be honest,because until very recently who knew these existed?" Egypt became part of the Roman Empire when Mark Antony and Cleopatra VII – the last pharaoh – were defeated at the Battle of Actium in 31 BC.Their customs and artefacts were subsequently spread across the world as the Romans conquered more and more nations. A coin minted in the year of their downfall and found among a treasure hoard in Darfield, near Barnsley, also features in the exhibition. Dr Fletcher said the discovery of the silver piece, which features an image of Mark Antony and was made just before "one of the greatest battles, the most decisive battles, in world history", had blown her mind. "They had minted these coins to pay their legions, to pay for the 500 war ships Cleopatra herself had funded – and of course these coins then end up in Darfield," she said. Bronze figurines of Egyptian gods Isis, Serapis and Apis discovered in the region also feature in the exhibition alongside a collection of Roman pottery, jewellery, clothing and coins. It is the first time the artefacts from the Barnsley area – many of which were being stored at museums in Doncaster, Sheffield and beyond – have been brought together. "It is a very, very special exhibition," said Dr Fletcher, who said there had largely been "tumbleweed" in South Yorkshire when it came to the history of Roman Britain until now."It's the first of its kind in this wonderful museum and it's basically the first of many temporary exhibitions looking at the wealth of artefacts in Barnsley. "We have been able to look at the evidence and put it on the map for the first time."

Russian Meerkats

Letter from Richard George April 2nd 2016

Dear Richard

Hope you`re well: do you know when the latest FS is out?

Would you be interested in a short piece I`ve compiled about cryptozoological references in pop and rock? I`ve found a couple of dozen, mostly in music of the late 60s and 70s,which is what I like. In the meantime, something for your letters page,if it takes your fancy. As Russian meerkats, Alexander and Sergei of

Compare the Market dot com would certainly be cryptids. In fact there is a creature not unlike them living on the steppes and deserts of Ukraine and Transcaspia - the Marbled Polecat. *Vormela peregusna.* According to David Macdonald (*Collins Guide to the Mammals of Britain and Europe* (1993),p. 119), it "frequently sits up on hind legs,sometimes stands on them" - rather meerkat-like behaviour. The Russian Ministry of Agriculture classifies it as rare and declining.

Its taxonomic name is very enigmatic. *Vor-mela* could mean "honey-devourer", although it is mainly carnivorous. *Peregusna* could derive from the Latin "peregrinus", meaning "coming from distant parts"

Not Compare de Market dot com,Compare de Polecat dot com! Seemples!

With best wishes,Richard George

Astronomical Anomalies

E - mail from R.Colborne 28-6-16

Rich,
I wonder if this second moon stuff is of any interest to you.

I'm not sure where I first read about this; I fell asleep while reading about this stuff and lost some of the URLs. I've now only got this Wikipedia page and anything to which it links.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claimed_moons_of_Earth

I feel that given the 19th century dates, it's unlikely that the astronomers cited were totally wrong, and on the basis that other Near Earth Objects have been discovered and verified since, I have to ask; did any or all of them actually observe objects in the NEO category.

One big question is; was there really an anomalous solar eclipse in May 1884?

It would appear to me that one or other of the dates given in the Wikipedia article for various sighting and predictions is a mistake. This makes me wonder whether the date given for the anomalous solar eclipse (May 1884) is given correctly. There was no official eclipse that year, as far as I can tell; but what is meant by "anomalous solar eclipse"? Does that mean a 'spurious eclipse' or a predicted

eclipse with some anomalous aspect to it?

I'll leave it with you, though I'm not sure if planets, space, and the like, is you thing.

Richard Colborne

FROM THE VAULT…

Old letters from Clinton Keeling dated October 25th and 30th 1996:

Giant Chinese Swifts (not to be confused with Taylor Swift)

Dear Richard Oct 25th

Greetings - and trust all continues to go well with and for you. Many thanks for your esteemed order for a copy of MAA - a man of taste and discernment , clearly[1]…About the Swallow the size of a Dove, this depends entirely on how technical Forster was seeking to be. The largest of the Swallows - the Blue Rough-winged Swallow (Psalidoprocne pristoptera) of north-east Africa - measures eight inches in length, so therefore it`s already larger than both the Ground and Pygmy Doves. I always feel this sort of assertion is rather on a par with the oft-repeated information that you can cross the Atlantic on a footbridge ,as indeed you can - from somewhere in western Scotland to one of the Inner Hebrides!

Kind regards, Clinton.

October 30th

Dear Richard,

Greetings - and thanks for your recent postcards.

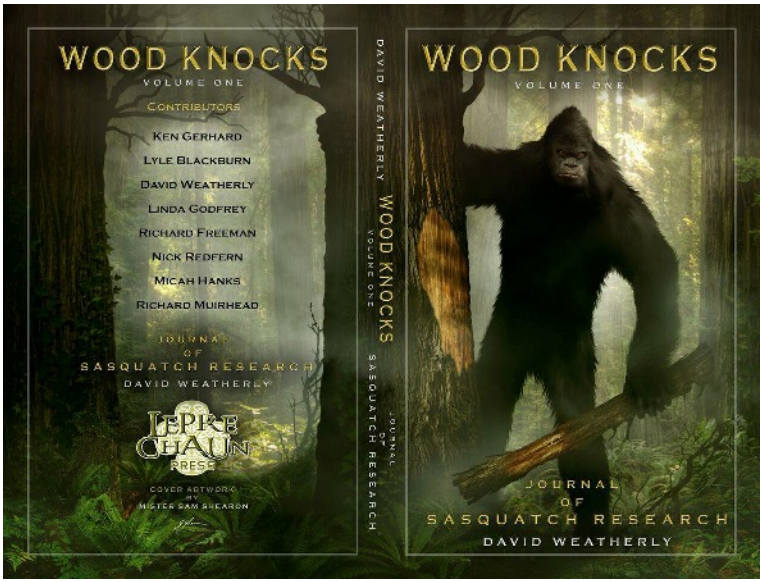
Concerning the "giant" Swallow - as soon as I saw the word "Chinese" on your

[1] Well of course I wish this were true! Wouldn`t we all? Lol.- Dr Devo.

second card I felt we`d made a breakthrough , in fact had the answer. Even today, with a never-before-equalled interest in animals, natural history books as plentiful as fallen leaves in autumn and countless superb films, there are still those who consistently confuse Swallows with Swifts. Ergo:such mistakes must have been fifty times as common in the last century. I therefore move it was the Crested Swift (Hemiprocne longipennis) of South-East Asia, which does indeed measure a foot in length...

Kind regards, Clinton

Grey Rumped Tree Swift (Hemiprocne longipennis) K.S. Seshadri. Wikipedia Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike 3.0 Unported



Volume 1 of new journal `Wood Knocks Journal of Sasquatch Research` now available on amazon etc, including an article by myself titled `.Hong Kong as a focal point for Bigfoot and Yeren Studies.` Image re-produced with permission of David Weatherly. ISBN 9780692710340. Other contributors: Ken Gerhard, Lyle Blackburn, David Weatherly, Linda Godfrey, Richard Freeman, Nick Redfern, Micah Hanks."Congratulations to you David Weatherly and your Contributors, you've all really nailed it with this book . I'm really looking forward to Wood Knocks Volume 2..." Review on Amazon.com by "Travis" August 7th 2016. Volume 2 should be out in roughly March 2017.

NEW-TYPE WILD BEAST PROWLS ADIRONDACKS

ALBANY, N.Y., April 12 (AP).—A new type of wild beast is prowling the Adirondack Mountains, preying on deer, livestock and poultry.

The animal is a cross between a coyote and a wild dog. Bounties offered for its capture have failed to stop its predatory raids.

The hybrid has been reported in increasing numbers in New York State mostly in northern wooded areas.

Reports of the beasts' presence also have come from widely scattered areas of the nation.

Game officials in Maine said coyote-dogs have been trapped in small numbers for the last ten years.

The Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington says that, in the Adirondacks, the beast "seems for the first time to have become a fairly stabilized type—a type that has been breeding for several generations."

The coydogs, coyotes, or whatever you want to call them, weigh from thirty-five to sixty pounds. They vary in color from red to brown to white. Some seem to have chow ancestry, others German shepherd, and others hound.

Left: **COYOTE-DOG CROSS**

Dallas Morning News April 13th 1950